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**Monday December 30 1996**

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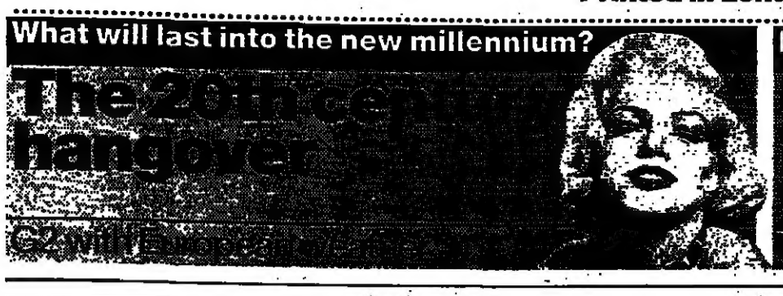
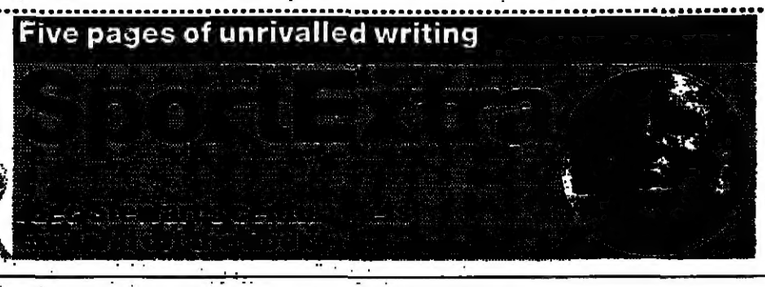
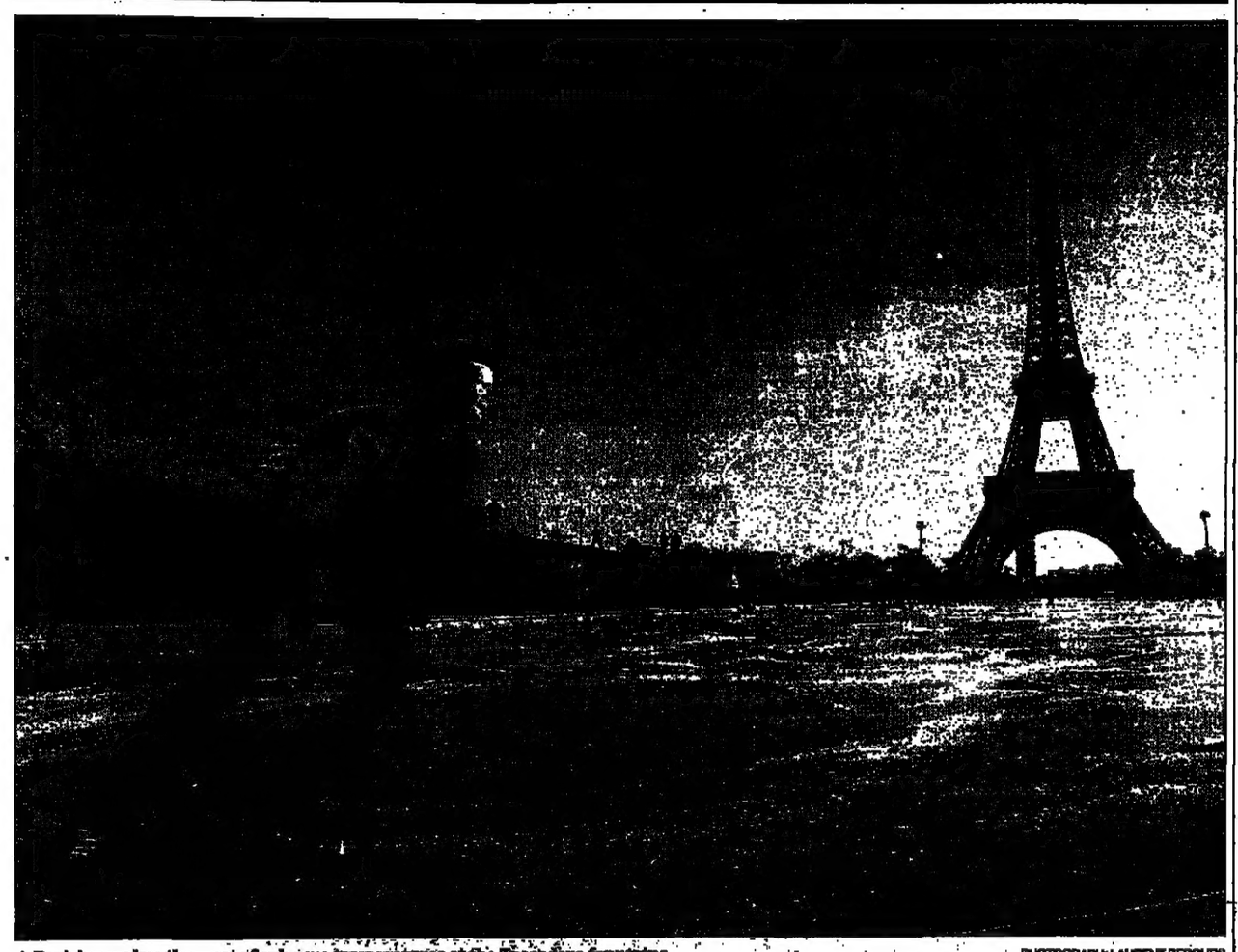


The big freeze



A Parisian makes the most of sub-zero temperatures at the Trocadero fountains PHOTOGRAPH: LAURENT REBOURS

# Freezing weather sweeps across Europe

John Ezard

IT was fun if you were a duck on the Thames at Hampton Court or a skater at the Eiffel Tower yesterday. But elsewhere in Paris a *clochard* died, becoming the city's sixth homeless victim within four days of a freeze which touched Britain and gripped savagely across Europe. More is forecast over the next few days.

"It seems the world is cold," the Pope told pilgrims at an audience in Rome. The mercury dipped to -20°C in northern Italy's mountains after a mild Christmas during which some southerners went swimming.

Weather paralysed the central region of Umbria, while drifts closed the main motorway from Rome northwards. Much of Venice was under water for only the second time this century.

Twenty people froze to death in Romania. Blizzards and ice closed many ports to shipping. In Germany, more than 120 miles of the river Elbe froze, with ice up to four inches thick round the North Sea and Baltic coasts.

The federal agency for shipping in Hamburg said conditions were expected to worsen in the next few days. Sections of the Danube and Main rivers in the southern state of Bavaria were frozen over. Some German towns were as cold as Italian mountains. The Main-Danube canal froze solid.

In Bulgaria, four patients died in an unheated mental hospital. Blizzards left 400 villages without power. In Poland, three frozen bodies were found, one of them a man walking home only a mile or so after visiting his mother.

In Britain, William and Jill Wallis, both aged 58, died after trying to rescue their labrador, Tara, from a frozen lake at Aveley, Essex. Two people who tried to help needed treatment for hypothermia.

With early temperatures at -7°C across much of the country, safety officials warned no one should assume that ice was thick enough to withstand human weight.

The *AA had extra patrols* on standby today for a spate of breakdowns by drivers heading for work or the sales.

A rare scum of ice formed on both sides of the Thames at Reading. Ducks were able to walk most of the river near Hampton Court in west London.

The London Weather Centre said today would bring more bitterly cold conditions, with a north-east wind and more snow or sleet in many eastern areas.

Two die trying to save dog, *page 5; Weather, G2, page 16*

Leaders trade insults for new year

# Major: I stand by my record

Michael White
Political Editor

JOHN MAJOR last night fired the opening salvo in the longest and potentially dirtiest election campaign in recent memory when he offered voters "a choice between two futures" — stability under the Tories or Labour's "untried, inexperienced, unrealistic alternative".

As Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, warned that negative campaigning and short-term thinking looked set to produce "the least intelligent election ever", Mr Major promised "a future that looks rosy with the best economic conditions that this country has seen for a century".

He backed it with five Tony Blair-style key pledges on the economy and Europe: lower taxes, prices, and mortgage rates, more jobs, and a strong defence of the national interest against European federalism. "Only the Conservatives can deliver and build on Britain's stability and prosperity," he declared.

In his traditional new year message to party activists the Prime Minister avoided getting his own hands dirty with the direct attack on Tony Blair which is expected next week, at the start of what is billed as a £7 million advertising campaign in the long run-up to a May 1 election.

But he declared: "It is not my nature to walk away from a fight, I am not going to do so now," and weighed into Labour as too naive and incompetent to run Britain in the harshly competitive 90s. "We will win that election because it is too risky to trust Labour with Britain's future," said Mr Major, who ignored his own party's infighting over Europe.

Fresh speculation at Westminister, unconfirmed last night, suggests that if the Government can hang on with no Commons majority until late March, Mr Major will be urged to stretch the usual three-week campaign into five weeks or more, in the hope that a fatal mistake will destroy Mr Blair's huge poll lead.

On the same hunch in 1979 Jim Callaghan ran a five-week campaign against Margaret Thatcher. He lost.

While Mr Major's opponents were quick to deride yesterday's umpteenth relaunch of "Honest John", they were also aware that the premier remains a formidable underdog campaigner — and that the elusive "feel-good" factor will be more much evident this time.

Aware that voters are reluctant to credit his government after its spectacular economic blunders, Mr Major's text acknowledged "how hard the British people have had to work" to create their own prosperity — an extra £1,100 a year for the average family after tax and inflation since 1992, according to the Tories' widely-disputed claims.

Last night both Mr Ashdown, in his new year message, and John Prescott tore into what Labour's deputy leader called "the start of a £7 million Get Blair offensive" financed by "sleazy" and anonymous donors, many from abroad. "It is a desperate last-ditch effort to win back support before the election. It will fail like every attempt before because the British people want fresh, strong leadership for the future not the same old personal abuse from the Tories and the same old lies about their record," said Mr Prescott.

Mr Blair will make his own riposte today. Both major parties have the money and motive to launch expensive media campaigns against each other. Mr Ashdown, who has little of either, made a virtue of it.

Proudly boasting of the growing Lib Dem record at local government level, he hammered away at the theme that — across the spectrum of policies — "Liberal Democrats can make a difference".

He told supporters: "There is now a real danger, under either of the other parties, that Britain will sleepwalk into the next millennium — our politics contaminated by negative campaigning, our actions dominated by short-term thinking and our government avoiding issues instead of confronting them."

Pledging the Liberal Democrats to indulge in "neither the politics of insult nor the politics of illusion" he paraded fully costed pledges for smaller class sizes, shorter NHS waiting lists and 3,000 extra police on the beat. Labour has promoted broadly similar priorities and Mr Major also singled out the same three public services.

"Every previous Labour government has mishandled the economy and every person has paid the price through high taxes, mortgages, prices and fewer jobs — if a new Labour government acted as Labour has always done, we would all suffer," he said in a clear attempt to tie New Labour to its Old Labour past.

"It is not my nature to walk away from a fight. We will win the election because it is too risky to trust Labour."
— John Major

"There is now a real danger that Britain will sleepwalk into the next millennium – our politics contaminated by negative campaigning, our actions dominated by short-term thinking and our government avoiding issues instead of confronting them"
— Paddy Ashdown

Rhetoric and reality, page 2; Leader comment, page 8

# Doubt cast on tagging scheme

Research suggests electronic curfews are not cost-effective

Alan Travis
Home Affairs Editor

ELECTRONIC tagging will have to be used for more than 15,000 criminals at any one time if the scheme is to be profitable for the private security companies that run it, according to internal Home Office calculations.

The figure means that 15 per cent of those currently serving community sentences would have to be tagged if the scheme is to become cost-effective. In the United States, where tagging is widely used, the proportion is only 2.5 per cent.

The estimate of 15,000 is contained in unpublished Home Office documents. Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, said last night that it was highly unlikely that more than 2,000 to 3,000 orders would exist at any one time.

"This would mean that tagging was not cost-effective," he said. "Tagging can only work if the private companies involved can make a sustained and significant profit."

Despite the internal Home Office figures, ministers are considering a rapid increase in use of the new court sentence following official research published yesterday showing that the latest trials have been 75 per cent successful.

The Home Office research report says more work and many more trial-curfew orders are needed before the scheme can go national. The Prime Minister has already announced that tags are to be used for children as young as 10.

So far a total of 236 criminals have been tagged as a way of monitoring six-month curfew orders imposed by the courts over the past 18 months in Manchester, Reading and Norfolk. One hundred and eleven have been completed and 91 are still being monitored.

Harry Fletcher: 'twice failure rate of probation'

The £2 million trials involve attaching a matchbox-size device to the offender's ankle or wrist which is monitored by a unit in his home connected to the private firms policing the scheme. The tag emits an alarm if the offender moves out of range of the unit and breaks the curfew.

The Home Office research report looked in detail at what happened to the first 83 tagging orders. Officials found that most were successfully completed and 19 had to be revoked by the courts because of repeated breaches. Most offenders had been convicted of theft, burglary and driving while disqualified.

This 75 per cent success rate compares with the original trials held in 1989 when 80 per cent of those tagged breached their curfew. However the official report says the sample is too small to provide a proper evaluation.

The researchers say that the companies are using much better equipment than was available in 1989 and the staff involved are professional and competent.

But it adds that the role of the probation service must be clarified as many of those tagged needed professional support which could not be provided by the security companies.

It also reports a growing confidence among magistrates in using the orders. The trials began in July 1995 in a blaze of bad publicity when the first offender to be tagged, a Norfolk shoplifter, broke his curfew 40 times in five weeks. Since then magistrates have tended to avoid tagging offenders with a drug or alcohol problem and used them for those most likely to complete the order.

The Home Office minister Lady Blatch welcomed the research: "It makes clear that tagging can be a worthwhile community sentence. It punishes criminals by restricting their liberty and it is a cost-effective alternative to prison."

She said average costs were slightly less than probation and half the cost of sending the offender to prison.

But Mr Fletcher claimed that the 25 per cent failure rate was twice the rate for probation and said the tagging completion rates were artificially high.

"In many cases offenders were wrongly told by the courts that the tag was an alternative to custody," he said.

Richard Powell, managing director of Securicor Custodial Services, said he was delighted that the Home Office research findings were positive. "The report makes clear that electronic monitoring orders represent a highly useful and cost-effective alternative to prison."

New Internationalist *magazine*

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# Fans in tune with band that knows the score

**It took a last-minute equaliser to drown out the sound of Sheffield Wednesday's musical followers bringing a new one-two to football's Premiership grounds**

Monday sketch

Nick Varley

JOHN Hemmington heads for Stamford Bridge's away end, hiding his "offensive weapon" — for that is what several football clubs have deemed it to be.

He moves past the orange-bibbed stewards, the yellow-clad mounted police officers and the packs of their dog-handling colleagues, all of them oblivious to the moulded metal he is carrying.

Perhaps if it was out of its case, with the winter sunshine bouncing off one of its polished edges, they would notice.

Instead the first most of the 28,000 inside Chelsea's ground know of the Sheffield Wednesday fans who are about to haunt them all afternoon is when John opens his case and decides it is time for action.

As he gives the signal and sounds a fanfare, fellow supporters crane their necks to see what the commotion behind them is. They stand and their faces light up. The band is in.

For John is not the leader of some modern South Yorkshire version of Chelsea's '70s Headhunters hooligan contingent, but the boss of a far more laudable — and listenable — firm: Wednesday's fans' band.

As the team have notched up an impressive Premiership run of 10 games unbeaten, the musicians — three trumpeters, a trombonist and a saxophonist as well as four drummers — have been recording equally rave reviews.

"Wonderful . . . a nice change from the normal grumpy silence," one reporter noted. Wednesday manager David Pleat has said: "Wimbledon wouldn't let them in and we lost 4-2." Even rival teams' fans have been calling Radio 5 Live's 606 phone-in to sing the band's praises.

As several of the older fans in the away end at Chelsea on Saturday noted, it is all a far cry from football's earlier golden eras before the advent of hooliganism. But, just as teams are now importing foreigners by the private jet full, so the fans are having to adopt continental techniques.

During Euro 96 any game featuring Holland would be accompanied by an oompah band bashing out the March to Aida, while the Swiss had a bugler to accompany the massed ranks of cow bells. They created atmosphere — the one ingredient all too often missing from today's swanky Premiership grounds.

Trumpeter John Hemmington with Steve Holmes and James Priestly at Stamford Bridge PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN GODWIN

In the report into the 1989 disaster at Wednesday's Hillsborough ground, which led to the all-seater stadia, Lord Justice Taylor noted: "To many young men the camaraderie of singing together, jumping up and down, responding in unison to the naming of players, their emergence onto the pitch, the scoring of a goal, an unpopular decision — all of these are an integral part of enjoying the match."

But he concluded: "I am not convinced that the cherished culture of the terraces is wholly lost when fans are seated . . . the communal spirit is still there and finds ready expression."

Except that it does not. In the latest survey of Premiership fans, most wanted an area of non-reserved seating set aside for fans who wanted to sing and chant.

Clubs such as Liverpool, which used to be regarded as near invincible at home, thanks in part to the fans' vociferous support, now hold no advantage with their toned-down terraces.

Last month Wednesday won at Liverpool — a victory accomplished to a non-stop cacophony of drums, wailing horns and singing. Just before Christmas their off-field players merited mentions in five of the match reports of Wednesday's draw at Spurs.

But Chelsea are no respecters of reputations. At each game the band warns the hosts of its visit and collection of "offensive weapons". Stamford Bridge has barred them before and so the usual nine dwindled to three.

With the pre-match backing of Wednesday officials, car salesman John, aged 33, and his cohorts, Steve Holmes and James Priestly, do get in. But they are late, due to a crash on the M1. Their team go one down within a minute of their arrival and two behind 15 minutes later.

Mark Pembridge immediately strikes one back and the band's nameless theme tune — a variation on Aida — moves from mid-tempo mournfulness to a triumphful upbeat march — and then switches between the two for the best part of an hour.

Interspersed are horn-led versions of the usual football chants. John said: "Other clubs have tried to get musicians in, but the difference with us is we are all fans — season ticket holders — first. We know the chants and when to play them. In a way we're doing what the people who used to start the songs did.

"People also come up with new songs, which is part of terrace culture. It would be a crying shame if that died out, which I think it might if people don't do something about it."

Almost three years to the day since John smuggled a bugle into a game at Everton under his jumper, he starts up on his trumpet (the club have bought one horn and a couple of drums, but the band is otherwise independent).

The lament mix of Wednesday's Theme echoes as Chelsea push forward and score a third. The beat increases as the goal is disallowed; and further still as Wednesday counter two minutes into injury time. When a mis-hit clearance drops to an orange shirt, the noise is at a crescendo as almost all 800 away fans bellow out the refrain.

Dejan Stefanovic volleys home and for the first time the band is drowned out. The future sound of football is lost among the type of roar which once needed no catalyst.

On the way out a Chelsea supporter shouts: "When's the CD out?" But, for once in modern football, commerce is not a consideration.

Guatemalans march through their capital yesterday to mark the signing of a treaty ending decades of civil war PHOTOGRAPH: SCOTT SADY

# Peace treaty ends Guatemalan war

Phil Gunson
Latin America Correspondent

GUATEMALANS anxious to put Latin America's longest armed conflict behind them crowded the main plaza outside the National Palace in Guatemala City yesterday to witness the signing of a peace accord between the government and leftwing guerrillas.

Hundreds of cheering supporters greeted the ageing leaders of the Guatemala National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) guerrilla front as they returned from exile to put an end to nearly 40 years of war.

The country's armed forces, which waged the conflict with extreme brutality and participated only reluctantly in the peace process, contributed to the festive spirit with music from a military band.

"We are thrilled to return to Guatemala and finally achieve peace," said Pablo Monsanto, commander of the Rebel Armed Forces (FAR), one of four factions which make up the URNG. "I hope we will have a country with justice," he added.

Around 10,000 Indians poured into the capital's central cemetery early yesterday, and people threw red carnations on the tomb of former president Jacobo Arbenz, overthrown in a CIA-backed coup in 1954.

The treaty signed yesterday is the product of six years of painful negotiation and will come into effect in three stages, concluding in 2000.

United Nations mediator Jean Arnault warned that the international community, which has done much to bring the two sides together, should not turn its attention from the tasks that lie ahead. "We need to beef up Guatemala's institutions to improve its social equality," he said.

Among those present at the signing ceremony were Spain's prime minister, José María Aznar, and the outgoing UN secretary-general, Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

One of the issues that will face Mr Boutros-Ghali's successor, Kofi Annan, is the deployment of 155 UN peacekeepers to supervise the demobilisation of URNG combatants, a move opposed by China because of Guatemala's diplomatic links with Taiwan.

The elected, civilian government of President Alvaro Arzu is committed under the peace plan to reforms which will cost an estimated £1.6 billion, of which little has so far been forthcoming from the international community.

Guatemala's 1992 Nobel Peace Prize winner, the indigenous leader Rigoberta Menchu, drew attention to the need for financial support. "We must face the serious economic and social problems afflicting the majority of Guatemalans, which were what caused the war," he said.

The population, around half of which is indigenous, remains deeply divided along class and ethnic lines.

The FAR founder, Cesar Montes, has spoken of the need for a complete overhaul of Guatemala's economic model. What is needed, he said, is one which "confronts social discrimination head on".

The URNG intends to form a political party to take this message to the electorate.

# Major's message: the rhetoric and the reality

How the facts measure up to the Prime Minister's new year claims yesterday

## Tax

**Major said:** "Having cut the basic rate from 33p to 23p, we aim to get it down to 20p. Labour has £30 billion spending pledges but will not say where the money will come from."

**Labour says:** Direct taxes have gone up since 1992, along with other taxes. Gordon Brown aims to create a starter rate of tax at 15p or 10p. Talk of £30bn pledges is a "Tory lie". All firm Labour commitments are fully costed.

**The facts:** The Tories have brought down the basic rate of income tax by 10p to 23p in the pound. But in the process they have more than doubled the rate of VAT from 8 to 17.5 per cent; broadened VAT to include electricity and gas; imposed new taxes on insurance premiums and air travel; reduced the value of mortgage tax relief from 40p in the pound to 15p in the pound; raised the national insurance ceiling; heavily taxed company cars and imposed a windfall tax on banks.

## Prices

**Major said:** "We will keep inflation firmly under control. Labour has no plans for controlling prices and has no inflation targets."

**Labour says:** "We will set and hold a target for low and stable inflation," once in office. Under the Tories inflation remains high by international standards.

**The facts:** The UK's current headline rate of inflation at 2.7 per cent is broadly twice that of Germany and France. During John Major's period as Chancellor it jumped to 9.5 per cent in 1990 before a deep recession forced it down to 1.6 per cent in 1993. It has since climbed again.

## Mortgages

**Major says:** "By keeping inflation and interest rates low, we will ensure that the repayment on people's homes — their biggest monthly outlay — remains affordable. Labour cannot be trusted to protect people's mortgages."

**Labour says:** What a cheek! John Major presided over 15 per cent interest rates, a collapse of the housing market, record negative equity and home repossessions which Labour plans will ease. Real interest rates are still high — and set to rise in the spring.

**The facts:** During the early 1990s the numbers of people in Britain with negative equity jumped to a record level of 1.7 per cent and the mortgage rate hit 15.07 per cent in 1990. Many people lost their homes through repossessions. The mortgage rate fell back to a 30-year low of 6.45 per cent in September 1996, before rising. Base and mortgage rates could rise one percentage point in 1997.

## Europe

**Major said:** "We will continue to help businesses create jobs, particularly for the young. Labour would destroy jobs with the minimum wage and Social Chapter."

**Labour says:** There are 1 million more jobless than in 1979 and most new jobs are low-wage and insecure. Labour would set up a Low Pay Commission with employers and unions to ensure minimum wage is realistic. Windfall levy on utility profits will finance jobs or training for 250,000 young people.

**The facts:** Under the Tories the unemployment rate reached the 3.1 million level in 1986, before beginning to fall. The jobless rate was back at 2.9 million in 1993, dropping to 1.9 million in November this year. At the present 7.7 per cent of the workforce the jobless rate is much lower than in most of the EU but considerably higher than Japan and the US. It is also almost twice the 4 per cent level which the Tories inherited from Labour in 1979.

## Jobs

**Major says:** "We will fight for a Europe of globally competitive nation states, not a federal Europe. Labour would undermine our right to say No to policies that would harm our country and sign up to the job destroying Social Chapter."

**Labour says:** Major has alienated Europe by weak leadership and creeping Euro-scepticism. Labour would not abandon veto on essential interests, but would examine the case for more majority voting on industry, environmental and regional policy as well as Social Chapter.

**The facts:** John Major negotiated opt-outs on monetary union and the Social Chapter at Maastricht. Among all the EU members the UK has the best record in implementing the single market and adhering to EU trade rulings.

*Reports: Alex Brummer and Michael White*

# Labour rejects unions' hope of partnership

Seumas Milne
Labour Editor

THE Labour leadership yesterday slapped down claims of a new understanding with the trade unions and rejected outright a senior union official's suggestion that a Labour government might set up a national "social partnership" forum with employers and the TUC.

Stephen Byers, the Labour employment spokesman at the centre of September's TUC row over the party-union links, said a proposal from John Edmonds, leader of the GMB union, for new tripartite structures to discuss jobs, training, the European Social Chapter and low pay would mean "turning the clock back".

Mr Edmonds's ideas — including an expanded role for public sector pay review bodies — were published yesterday as John Monks, TUC general secretary, said unions would have to break the "habits of opposition" under a Labour administration and "develop a relationship of social partnership between employers, unions and government".

But claims that Tony Blair and the unions have reached a better understanding over their post-election relationship since the debacle at the TUC conference were dismissed by one senior Labour source as "clutching at straws and whistling in the wind".

Labour would have a similar approach to public sector pay as the present government, he warned, and any challenge from public service workers would simply provide Mr Blair with the opportunity for an "early sorting out" of the relationship. It might, the source added, "be as well for them to test the will of the government early on so there is no misunderstanding for the remainder of the administration".

The fierceness of New Labour's response appeared mainly aimed at putting a swift end to Mr Edmonds's kite-flying about joint consultations with unions and employers, with its echoes of 1970s-style corporatism. Mr Byers said Labour believed in creating the "right climate for both sides of industry to work together", rather than a "formal machinery of government".

But there was also cold comfort for Mr Monks, who has worked hard to accommodate the new Labour agenda. He told unions in his new year message yesterday that there would be "no backstairs dealing" with a Labour government. A Blair administration would not be a "cavalry coming over the hill to rescue us. Our future lies in our own hands."

Mr Edmonds said yesterday he was advocating "working groups" or "contact points", rather than a revival of the old tripartite National Economic Development Council (Neddy) machinery abolished by the Thatcher government.

Tim Melville-Ross, chairman of the Institute of Directors, said yesterday that unions had resisted efforts to free the labour market in the 1980s. "But unions have changed and there ought to be a readiness to accept a new role for unions," he added.

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Inventory published after 450 years

One of the volumes which make up the 'fantastically intimate' inventory, soon to be made available to scholars PHOTOGRAPH: SEAN SMITH

# Shopaholic Henry's kingsize list

**Maev Kennedy** on 'the ultimate testament of the kleptomaniac king'

"ITEM: four sheets of hollande serving for foote sheetes some of them being perished with holes."

Henry VIII died 450 years ago next month, but is still alive and breathing in the meticulous black ink entries of the inventory of his possessions.

The inventory, a unique document of huge historical importance, is soon to be published for the first time.

The Society of Antiquaries bought it specifically to publish it "immediately" and make it available to scholars. The Antiquaries work on a different time frame from ordinary mortals. They bought two volumes in 1792, and these will be published, with the two volumes owned by the British Library, in the spring.

The whole Henry is in the four hefty volumes. His best clothes, his fabulous jewels "delivered from the King's secret jewel house", his paintings, his bed curtains "of blewe scarcennet embraudred with diverse thinges as Anteloppes and trees", the pewter chamber pots from his carved and embroidered close stools, his musical and scientific instruments, his broken spectacles, worn-out tennis balls, and his horses are all there.

It is an astonishing document which has scarcely been studied until now. The British Library's volumes have not been on display, and the Antiquaries' have been locked up in a corner cupboard of their magnificent library at Burlington House in London. They will be loaned to an exhibition opening on the anniversary of Henry's death, at the National Portrait Gallery in January.

A team of scholars, led by historian David Starkey, the expert on the Tudors, is contributing essays on different aspects of Henry, the armour, precious metals, costumes and furniture, animals and books. "It is a fantastically intimate document," Dr Starkey said. "The ultimate testament of the kleptomaniac shopaholic king."

It also demonstrates his fantastic wealth, which was not just avarice but a vital tool of state, Dr Starkey said.

"Every time a reception was held at Hampton Court the entire room was reconstructed. The rooms were just bare boxes, and they were lined with sumptuous tapestries, and heaped to the ceiling with plate. The intention was to dazzle and subjugate all beholders."

One attempt to cost the inventory arrived at a Tudor value of £300,000 for the armour and weapons, and the same again for the jewels and plate, sums almost impossible to translate into contemporary prices.

The stocktakers also found the cupboard full of the bandages kept for strapping Henry's gouty legs.

The inventory was completed within five years of his death, during the precarious reign of his fragile heir: "This boke made the xxth of January in the thirde yeare of the Reigne of our mooste dradd Sovereaigne Lorde Edward the VIth."

The preamble makes great play of the faithful accounting for every plate, coin and jewel belonging to the late king.

Dr Starkey was fascinated to track how much of the money from the Dissolution of the Monasteries Henry kept. He spent like a lord, but he hoarded too.

The charm of the inventory, however, is not in the richest but in the meanest objects. In the warrens of palaces every store, every junk room, every cupboard, was turned out.

Henry had more tablecloths than anyone else in England and robes to stun the viewers at the sheer shining splendour and bulk of the man.

But he did not get rich by ever throwing anything away: "Item, two pair of sheetes of holland, sore worne."

Henry VIII . . . inventory runs to four hefty volumes

## King's ransom

**Item: two olde rotten trussing sheets full of holes.**

**Item: Two peces of unycornes horne.**

**Item: one sett of chessemen of wood in a boxe of wood foure of theym being brokin.**

**Item: twoo little babies in a boxe of wood one of theym having a gowne of crymsen satten and thother a gowne of white vellat.**

**Item: One Mouffelier of purple vellat embrawdred with piries of damaske golde garnished with small perles and smale stones of soundrie sortes and furred with Sables.**

**Item: one hatte of purple vellat embrawdred with piries of damaske golde garnished with smale peeles and smale stones of sundrie sortes and frengid with golde.**

# New row over 'evil' abortion

**Michael White**
**Political Editor**

THE prospect that anti-abortion activists will target as many as 50 MPs in a high-profile attempt to influence the outcome of the general election was given a significant boost yesterday when Cardinal Basil Hume described abortion as "a great evil in our society".

On GMTV's Sunday Programme Cardinal Hume, the head of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales, encouraged both "social action" and political intervention in opposition to abortion.

Pro-lifers immediately hailed it as a significant development. But the editor of the Catholic Herald, Harry Coen, warned that in a tight election the issue might acquire "a preponderance of weight far beyond what it actually deserves".

Though his spokesman later said the cardinal was "not telling people who to vote for" he stressed that Catholics might find it difficult to vote for strongly pro-choice candidates. The cardinal reiterated his message in an interview in today's Daily Telegraph.

His remarks immediately reawakened political passions on the subject, with Peter Garrett, research director of the Pro-Life Alliance, claiming that the issue "should be able to swing a few key marginal constituencies".

The alliance is threatening to field 50 candidates, enough to gain it a party political broadcast.

At Westminster, the cardinal's remarks produced a mixed response among anti-abortion Conservative MPs. Dr Robert Spink, MP for Castle Point and a committed pro-lifer, said he would be unlikely to vote for a pro-choice Tory candidate. "That's my choice. I wouldn't advise anyone else how they should vote."

The former minister, Edward Leigh, himself a pro-life Roman Catholic and father of five, said he was not in favour of candidates standing on the abortion issue alone. "This has been tried time and time again. You get a derisory number of votes, 400 to 500 and hand a weapon to your opponents who can say that only 500 people in the constituency are concerned about it."

Other active pro-life Tories, including Elizabeth Peacock, MP for Batley and Spen, are known to share that fear.

As well as the Pro-Life Alliance's plans to field 50 candidates, single issue campaign tactics are likely to be employed by the Referendum Party, which is hoping to use Sir James Goldsmith's fortune to oppose Euro-federalism. There is also the prospect that both pro and anti-gun lobbies will target MPs.

None can expect to win seats, but they could tilt the result in a handful of marginal seats.

A recent ruling by the European Commission on Human Rights makes their impact even more uncertain. It would allow such campaigners to leaflet voters in a particular area about any candidate's stance on a given issue — abortion, fox-hunting or even political sleaze — in a way that would previously have fallen foul of British electoral law.

That opens the floodgate to the targeting of high-profile opponents such as Tony Blair.

The Labour leader has said that he is personally against abortion, but does not believe it should be made illegal. He has abstained more times than he has voted on the issue in the Commons, though not as often as Mr Major.

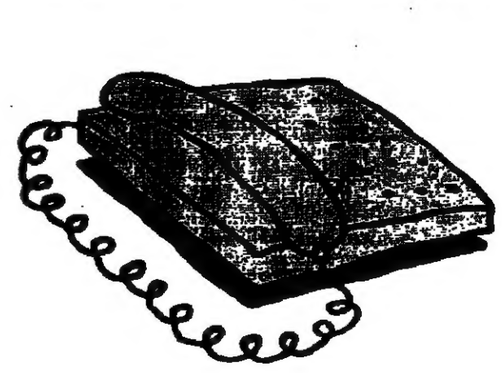
In Scotland, Cardinal Hume's counterpart, Cardinal Thomas Winning, has criticised Mr Blair's personal stance as "washing his hands" of the issue.

In reality, both main party leaders take a pragmatic view and backed the reduction from 28 to 24 weeks of pregnancy in which legal abortion is allowed, a change dictated by changing medical technology but pressed by the pro-life lobby which failed to reduce it to 18 weeks.

Dr Spink, an MP since 1982, yesterday defended the Prime Minister. "He's told the pro-lifers and the pro-abortionists where he stands and he's stuck to his guns.

"He's always followed his conscience, which is his policy on this matter. So he has total integrity on it. Mr Blair on the other hand, has said one thing and done another."


RING IN THE NEW YEAR.



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FIXGDN 14



The Guardian Personality of the Year

Today is your last chance to vote for the Guardian Personality of the Year, the antidote to the BBC poll won by John Major amid accusations of dirty-dealing.

Telephone lines close at midnight tonight, and the result will be published on January 1 1997. Calls should cost no more than 10p.

- Neil Hamilton — For services to the Labour Party — 0891 299 691
- Jane Austen — For services to TV ratings — 0891 299 692
- Duchess of York — For services to republicanism — 0891 299 693
- Quentin Davies — For services to parliamentary democracy — 0891 299 694
- Neil Jordan — For services to republicanism — 0891 299 695
- Kenneth Clarke — For services to Europe — 0891 299 696


# Hollywood toasts another record year at box office

**Martin Walker**
**in Washington**

WITH a record $5.8 billion (£3.5 billion) taken at the box office, Hollywood is celebrating the first year when 12 films each made more than $100 million in America.

The biggest was Independence Day, which took $306 million in the United States and $427 million elsewhere, making it the third highest-earning movie ever after Jurassic Park at $977 million and The Lion King at $755 million.

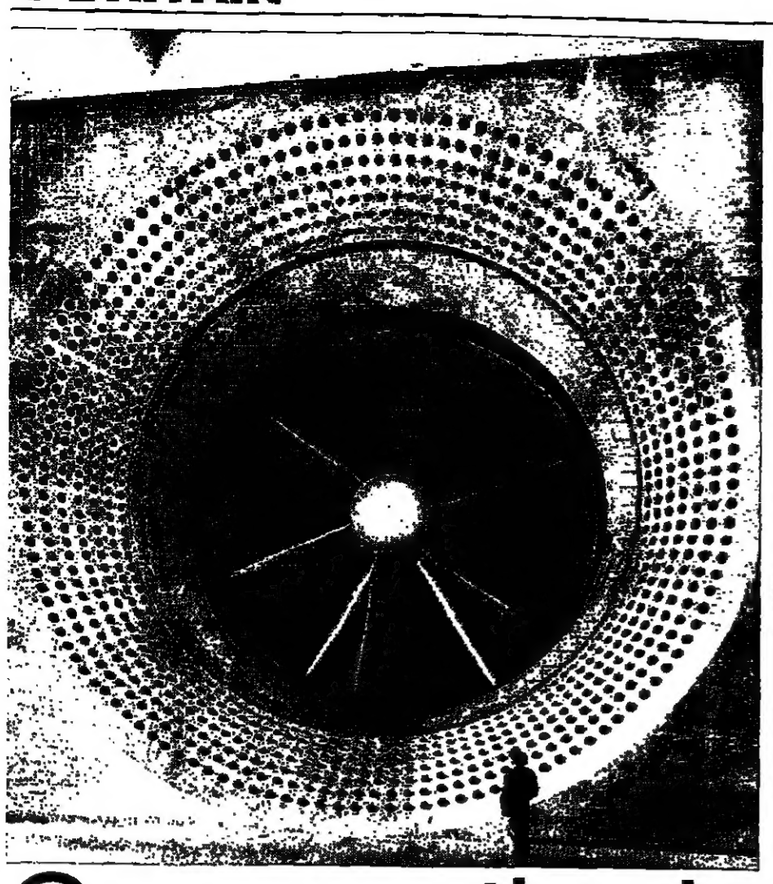
The second biggest earner was the hurricane disaster film, Twister, with $242 million in the US.

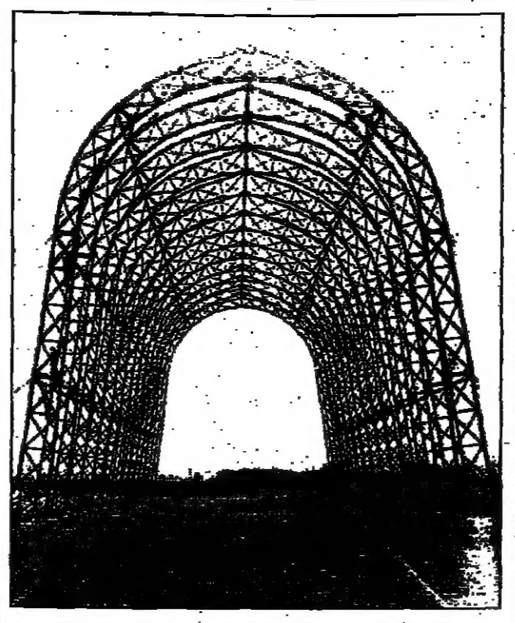
This is the fifth successive year of improved takings. But the cost of making movies rose by an average 8 per cent in 1996. The Motion Picture Association of America says that the typical Hollywood film cost $35.3 million to make and another $17.7 million to market.

For Hollywood, the growing overseas market — which in many cases is now more profitable that the once-dominant US market — represents a strategic shift. Striptease, starring Demi Moore, which failed dismally in the US with takings of only $33 million, was rendered profitable by foreign markets, where it took $65 million.

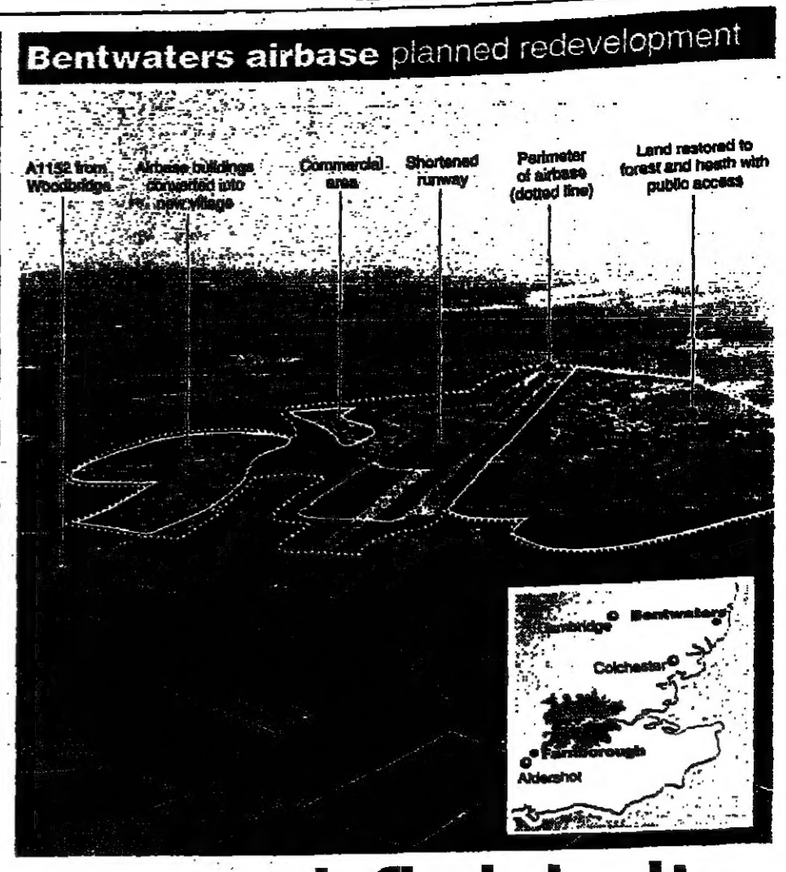
**Mrs Danvers is sinister manipulator and broken but vengeful woman. No female — bluff sister, petulant grandmother, frivolous Bishop's wife — is spared the author's scorn; yet the men — a murderer, a blackmailer and official perverters of justice — are all let off.**
Up the twisted garden path to Manderley with Veronica Horwell

G2 page 14

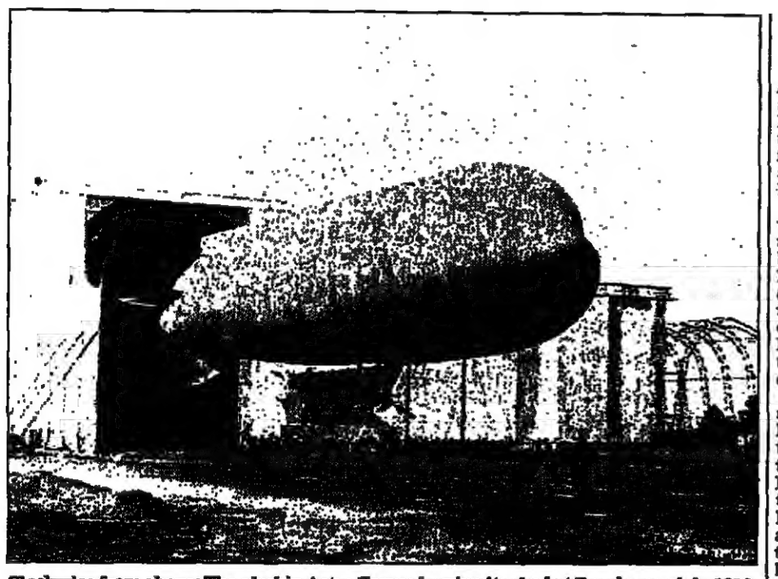




**A big decline in the need for air bases has led to many being sold off. David Fairhall examines the cases of Farnborough and Bentwaters**




# Conservation battle looms over airfield site



Clockwise from above: The airship Astra Torres leaving its shed at Farnborough in 1913; the 24ft wind tunnel built in 1935; the airship shed to be relocated as part of an air and space sciences centre; and plans for the Bentwaters airbase, in Suffolk

A CONFLICT between conservation and commercial redevelopment is looming at Britain's oldest airfield, Farnborough in Hampshire, the setting for this country's first powered flight by Samuel Cody in 1908, and home of the biennial Farnborough air show.

The Ministry of Defence wants to raise cash by selling the airfield and the historic buildings of Farnborough's Royal Aircraft Establishment (RAE) which are at one end of the runway. The RAE has become part of the Defence Evaluation and Research Establishment in new accommodation at the other end.

The Society of British Aerospace Companies wants to keep using Farnborough for the air show, and insists there is no other suitable site. But the Civil Aviation Authority has warned that if Farnborough becomes a civil airfield, historic buildings at the end of the runway might have to be demolished for safety reasons.

A conservation group called the Farnborough Air Sciences Trust (Fast) is determined to restore some of the buildings as a showcase for British aviation technology — including the airship shed, the 24ft wind tunnel, and the headquarters of Lord Trenchard, founder of the Royal Air Force.

Confronted with this impasse, the MoD has delayed putting the airfield on the market until the spring, by which time it hopes the local planners, Rushmoor borough council, will have reconciled the conflicting interests. The council's revised development plan will shortly be subject to a public inquiry.

The planners are constrained by a 1994 government policy statement that the Farnborough airfield should be retained for business aviation (as well as the air show) because two other fields in the South-east have recently been closed. But the Rushmoor plan also acknowledges the interest expressed by Fast in redeveloping the historic RAE factory site.

The group has already succeeded in having several of the key buildings listed, including the wind tunnel with its prominent clock tower, built in 1935 to test aircraft designs. The tunnel is still operational and capable of earning its keep, but its tower projects into the runway approach flightpath — something the CAA might find unacceptable where the MoD did not.

The trust also wants to preserve a lattice-framed airship shed, the earliest Royal Flying Corps hangar and many of the other research workshops that mark the progress of British aviation from kites to Concorde. But Laurence Peskett, one of Fast's founders, emphasises that a proposed air and space sciences centre would be much more than a museum.

It would be commercially led, he says, providing a permanent showcase for the latest technological developments. Taken together, the two elements would be "an inspiration for a new generation" in aerospace. A detailed feasibility study by consultants Arup Economics and Planning is expected by the end of January.

## Property group in third attempt to develop Suffolk base

AFTER two failed attempts since the US Air Force pulled out in 1993, the MoD has signed a provisional contract with the property group Bentwaters Investments to sell the 1,000 acre Bentwaters airbase in Suffolk.

The sale is conditional on the Suffolk Coastal district council's approval of the outline planning proposals submitted in advance by the MoD. The developers have declined to reveal their detailed intentions until the council announces its decision in February.

The MoD's first taker for the huge Suffolk base was the Maharishi Foundation, which proposed to establish a "university of natural law", but that fell through, to the relief of local people who found that the shopping and other facilities they had hoped for would not be available.

The Chris Parker group was next in the frame, only to drop out in its turn. However Tony Hunt, one of the men behind Bentwaters Investments, was previously one of Mr Parker's financial backers.

The outline plan within which the developers must work is clear from the MoD proposals. The USAF housing and recreational facilities on the north west side of the A1152 Woodbridge-Tunstall road would become a new village, the airbase administration blocks on the other side of the road would become a commercial "employment area".

The hangars and bunkers on the far side of the runway would either be demolished or landscaped to provide forest and heathland with public access through footpaths. The runway itself would be shortened by digging up both ends, with the option for some sort of flying preserved.

# Sinn Fein councillor told of death risk

## Party leaders warned to be alert to loyalist assassination attempts

**David Sharrock**
**Ireland Correspondent**

A SINN Fein councillor in Belfast has been warned of imminent danger from a loyalist assassination attempt.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary told Alex Maskey on Saturday that it had information that the attempt would soon be made, and warned other leading Sinn Fein members to be alert to loyalist attacks.

Also on Saturday, Liam Duffy, Sin Fein's director of elections, spotted a booby-trap explosive device which had apparently fallen from under his car on the Gobnascale estate, Londonderry.

Army bomb disposal experts defused the device, which was the second attack on republicans in six days. It is believed that the Ulster Freedom Fighters planted it, although no group has claimed responsibility.

Eight days ago Eddie Copeland, aged 25, a senior north Belfast republican, was injured when a device exploded under his car in the Ardoyne district. He is in hospital awaiting a skin graft.

The attacks follow the IRA's gun attack on December 20 which wounded an RUC officer guarding a Unionist politician as he visited his son at a children's hospital.

Officially the ceasefire announced by the Combined Loyalist Military Command in October 1994 is still in operation, but the clear breaches will increase pressure on the Government to ban loyalist political representatives from the Stormont talks on the future of Northern Ireland.

Sinn Fein said the claim in the Sunday Times that Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness were reappointed at a recent convention as full voting members of the IRA's ruling council was an old lie.

A spokesman Richard McAuley said: "We have this story, which is two months old, being regurgitated as the same old lie, and the timing is not coincidental.

"Somebody has an objective. It will probably lead to further attacks on Sinn Fein members. They might even get killed. What is the British agenda behind all of this?"

Meanwhile, it is thought that an injured IRA bomb-maker is on the run after a planned attack on security forces went wrong. Police found suspected bomb-making components at a west Belfast house after an explosion.

Detectives think a firing mechanism for a device exploded in a house in the Whiterock area on Friday night. The RUC suspects that any injured man has been smuggled to a safe house in the Irish Republic.

Six men arrested in a follow-up operation were still being questioned yesterday.

# GP fundholders demand better Labour deal

**David Brindle, Social Services Correspondent**

LEADERS of fundholding doctors will this week tell Chris Smith, Labour's shadow health secretary, that he has not moved far enough to make them drop their hostility to his policy programme.

The executive committee of the National Association of Fundholding Practices has voted without opposition to insist that Labour must allow existing fundholders to keep their own budgets for purchasing hospital and community health services for their patients.

The move will come as no surprise to Labour, which thought it unlikely the NAFP would fall in line. Party strategists believe, however, that many of the 16,000 fundholders are not as militant as the association's leadership.

Earlier this month, Mr Smith watered down Labour's commitment to scrap fundholding, and set out a vision of "locality purchasing", bearing strong resemblance to existing pilot schemes by which groups of "total" fundholders buy all health care for an area.

He went so far as to suggest that individual practices could keep their own budgets if other GPs in the area agreed to them doing so. The NAFP immediately said these concessions looked insufficient. In its formal response this week, it will reassert that nothing less than a guarantee of practice-based budgets will deter it from campaigning against Labour's policy in the run-up to the general election.

By April, fundholders will represent 58 per cent of the English population and a concerted campaign by them against Labour could undermine the party's support on the health issue.

Some NAFP leaders have for more than a year been warning that fundholders could go fully or semi-private if Labour takes away their control of budgets. However, other primary health care workers are now warning that Mr Smith risks alienating them because he has moved so far to appease GPs.

Dr David Tod, an NAFP executive member and immediate past president of the association, said yesterday there was still room for compromise with Labour if it agreed to leave existing fundholders alone until the system had been independently evaluated.

"My personal view is that it would be politic for both the Labour Party and the association to say we will allow fundholding to contine *pro tem* until it has been fully assessed by an outside health research body," Dr Tod said.

# Labour makes rich pickings attack over foreign investment 'miracle'

## Michael White on figures showing growth of mergers and takeovers

LABOUR last night launched an attack on a pillar of the "Tory economic miracle" when it revealed that a growing share of the much-trumpeted inward investment in Britain arises simply from mergers and takeovers of firms by foreign companies.

In 1995 nearly a fifth of inward investment was accounted for by the purchase of two privatised electricity utilities, Seeboard and South Western Electricity, by larger American rivals for £1.6 billion and £1.1 billion respectively, Stephen Byers, a Labour employment spokesman, declared.

Once BMW's purchase of Rover from British Aerospace and other acquisitions were taken into account, some 60 per cent of 1995 inward investment, as defined by the Treasury's "pink book" on UK balance of payments, arose from such takeovers — compared with 15 per cent in 1985.

Since ministers, led by John Major himself, repeatedly stress the importance of Britain's flexible, low-wage economy, free from the restrictions of the European Union social chapter, in winning vital investment from the US and Asia, the battleground is an important one. In some years this investment has accounted for 40 per cent of the EU total.

Tory campaign strategists were quick last night to denounce the claim as wrong and "depressingly Old Labour".

Business investment trends were far more complex than the pink book's list of financial flows in and out of Britain, said David Willetts, the former Treasury minister who resigned recently over the "whip's memo" affair and is now tipped for a key role in the Tory election campaign.

"Just as British companies can be bought by foreigners in a global, competitive market, so British companies are massive purchasers of overseas assets."

Mr Byers, MP for Wallsend, argued that ministerial speeches always invoked images of inward investment as "companies from Japan and Germany setting up factories on green field sites. It is a lot more complicated than that and not necessarily good news, despite what the Government would have us believe."

In a statement last night he predicted that the 1996 investment figures would confirm the trend which he had observed from parliamentary answers by the Department of Trade and Industry.

"The Tories constantly claim that the UK attracts inward investment because we have no minimum wage and have opted out of the social chapter," the statement said. "These figures show that such claims are misleading and are simply deceiving the British people. The reality is that the majority of inward investment comes from foreign investors making rich pickings from what's left of British industry."

In what may trouble many Tory MPs rather more, Mr Byers also questioned the price at which the utilities — denationalised on highly favourable terms — are now being acquired by overseas rivals.

"Our nation's assets are being sold abroad, with profits being syphoned off overseas, and the Government applauds this as inward investment. What a misuse of the English language."

### Case 1

**SWEB, the old South Western Electricity Board, was the first regional electricity company to be taken over by an American power group, *writes Ian King.***

**Snapped up for £1.1 billion in September 1995 by the Atlanta-based Southern Company, Sweb has since announced plans to cut more than 650 jobs — almost a fifth of the workforce.**

**After the takeover the Americans wasted no time in wielding the jobs axe, making Sweb one of the first regional electricity companies to undertake a heavy redundancy programme.**

**But aside from the job cuts, Sweb's remaining 4,000 employees have since suffered further worry. In April, Southern said it was prepared to sell up to half its stake in Sweb.**

### Case 2

**DESPITE Labour's claim that inward investment has destroyed British jobs, foreign money has in some cases helped maintain manufacturing in this country, *writes Roger Cowe.***

**BMW came to the aid of the last indigenous manufacturer, now named Rover, after buying it from British Aerospace for £800 million in 1994.**

**By the end of the century BMW expects to have spent another £3 billion on improving productivity, but in typical German fashion is not seeking a quick return. Rover will not produce profits until 1999.**

**Recently BMW announced a £400 million engine plant in the Midlands, employing 1,500 and maybe three times that in supplier companies. And BMW's support has protected up to 40,000 jobs throughout the Rover Group.**

## News in brief

### Food poisoning claims 16th victim

THE *E. coli* outbreak in Scotland claimed the life of a 16th pensioner at the weekend. Tomorrow the Scottish Office will receive the initial recommendations of a scientific inquiry into what is now the world's second worst such outbreak of food poisoning.

Yesterday Lanarkshire health board confirmed the death of a woman aged 91 in Monklands hospital, Airdrie, on Saturday. At the request of relatives, the woman, from Netherton near Wishaw, has not been named. The health board said the woman had contracted the illness after eating meat bought from John M Barr & Son, the Wishaw butcher's shop at the centre of the outbreak. — *Alison Daniels*

### 'Marriage of convenience'

THE Prince of Wales's sense of duty to produce an heir led him to make an ill-founded and loveless "marriage of convenience", according to a new book by Zelda West-Meads, a former spokeswoman for the marriage guidance charity Relate.

The chinks in the relationship were visible from the start, Mrs West-Meads claims, pointing out how the prince, asked if he was in love during the engagement press conference in 1981, replied: "Whatever love is."

### Rapist's description issued

POLICE yesterday released a description of a man who is wanted for raping a 53-year-old mother and her nine-year-old daughter after breaking into their bedroom. The attack took place in the early hours of Boxing Day as the pair slept in a ground floor flat in Northolt, north London, belonging to a relative they were visiting for Christmas.

The rapist, who later made off with cash, was described as white, in his early 20s, of slim build and clean shaven, with blond hair and chiselled features.

### Man found dead on pub roof

A MAN who apparently vanished early on Christmas Day was yesterday found dead on the roof of the pub where he had been drinking during the previous evening. The body of Jason Andrew, 27, was found on a roof at the Clarke's Arms, near his home in Hyde, Greater Manchester. Police believe he was the victim of a fall.

### Illegal immigrant suspects up

THE number of alleged illegal immigrants detected in the UK increased by 40 per cent last year, according to Home Office statistics. Illegal entry action was initiated against 10,381 people in 1995, compared with 7,430 the previous year.

However, only 3,020 of those people were removed or voluntarily left the country, a 7 per cent decrease on the previous year's figure. The annual report of the Home Office's Immigration and Nationality Directorate noted that the largest single category of illegal entrant remained those who gained entry by deceiving an immigration officer on arrival — 35 per cent of those detected in 1995.

### Lottery winners

EIGHT jackpot winners won £1,225,265 each in Saturday's National Lottery draw. Winning numbers in the last draw of 1996 were 8, 10, 20, 27, 31 and 39, with the bonus ball 30.

ملكنا من الاهل

صكات من الاصل



Broken ice and freezing water defeat rescuers

# Couple die in lake trying to save dog

Alan Watkins

A COUPLE died yesterday when they fell into a frozen lake in Aveley, Essex, trying to rescue their pet labrador. The dog eventually made its own way to safety, and waited on the bank as 50 rescuers sought to save William and Jill Willis, both aged 58.

Another couple, in their 40s, who waded into the broken ice and freezing water to try to pull the Willises out, were taken to Oldchurch hospital in Romford suffering from suspected hypothermia. Later their condition had much improved, and last night they were expected to be allowed home.

The accident happened just after 9am yesterday at Belhus Park, where the lake was covered by ice up to 2inches thick.

Tara, a three-year-old black labrador, was being taken for a walk by the Willises, who lived in Upminster. The dog ran on to the ice and appeared to get into difficulties.

Mr Willis scrambled down the bank after her, but as he walked across the ice it gave way beneath him. His wife went to his help, but met the same fate.

The second couple risked their own lives trying to drag them to safety, but were beaten by the intense cold.

After park officials had raised the alarm, fire fighters using special floating boards succeeded in lifting Mrs Willis from the water after 45 minutes. Paramedics restarted her heart and she was airlifted to the Royal London hospital. She died shortly after arrival.

Police divers found Mr Willis two hours later in 12 feet of water. Ambulance staff tried for nearly an hour to resuscitate him before a doctor pronounced him dead.

While the passers-by made their rescue attempt, Tara struggled ashore and stood barking on the bank, firemen said. She was treated by a vet for hypothermia but was last night said to be fit and well in local kennels — still wearing the red bow that her owners attached to her collar for Christmas.

"I suspect that the fate of both husband and wife was sealed within 30 seconds of them trying to get across the lake," said Barry Cable, Essex rescue assistant divisional officer.

"One easily understands how much the dog mattered to them, but it is tragic that they sacrificed their own lives for her.

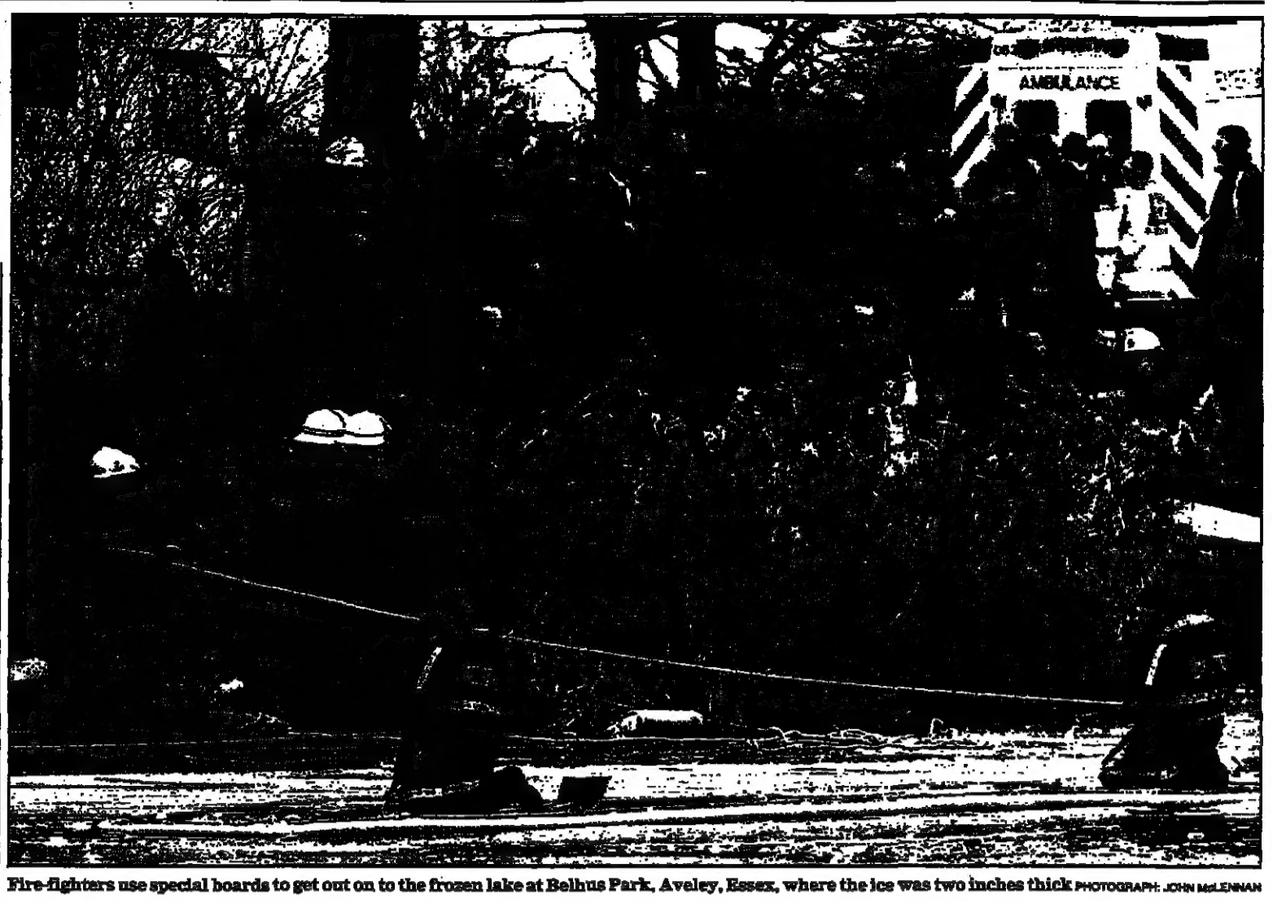
"Ice-covered ponds are absolutely treacherous, with no guarantee that they will stand the weight of a human."

Stephen Willis, one of the couple's two sons, said last night: "It has been a terrible shock, but at least they are together. They were a very loving couple, and Tara was like a third child to them."

The other couple, who were out walking their own dog, asked the authorities not to disclose their identities.

An Essex police spokeswoman said: "It would seem the sort of act for which an award would be appropriate. The couple came very close to losing their own lives.

"It was an extremely brave act, but they cannot come to terms with the fact that through no fault of their own they were unable to help. They just had to watch as the couple got into even more difficulties, and then save themselves."




Fire-fighters use special boards to get out on to the frozen lake at Belhus Park, Aveley, Essex, where the ice was two inches thick PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN McLENNAN

# Magic mushroom 'export' drive

An MP wants Wales to profit from one of its natural resources. Alex Bellos reports

Paul Flynn: 'My comments illustrate idiocy of law'

A LABOUR MP suggested yesterday that Welsh youngsters be given grants to export magic mushrooms.

Paul Flynn, MP for Newport West, called the hallucinogenic fungi "the truffles of Wales", which could be marketed around the world. Mushrooms from his constituency can command a price of £2,000 a kilo in the streets of Amsterdam.

Although mushrooms containing the active ingredient psilocybin are legal if picked and eaten wild, they become class A drugs — the same status as heroin, cocaine and ecstasy — if they are "prepared", for instance mixed in soup, tea or cakes.

Mr Flynn said in an interview for S4C's Welsh language news programme Y Byd Ar Bedwar: "It is perfectly legal to send them fresh from Wales; nobody is poisoned by them, nobody is addicted. Why on earth not exploit the market and get the Welsh Development Agency to give a grant for a few young people to set up a business?"

Wales produces some of the most powerful mushrooms in the world, according to connoisseurs of hallucinogens.

Nigel Evans, the Conservative MP for Ribble Valley, whose knee-jerk attacks on drug culture are about as frequent as Mr Flynn's calls for liberalisation, immediately criticised the Welsh MP for "encouraging people to take drugs and sell them".

But Mr Flynn replied: "My comments illustrate the idiocy of the present law ... Viewers of the programme will see that I have repeated my call that all drugs are dangerous and the use of all drugs should be discouraged. Magic mushrooms are among the least harmful. No one has ever died after using them but 100,000 die every year as a result of tobacco use."

He said Mr Evans sold cigarettes at his shop in Swansea. "He profits from a drug that shortens the lives of a quarter of its users by 20 years."

A spokesman for Tony Blair said Mr Flynn's views on drugs were not shared by the Labour Party.

## Police seek to identify cremated remains

Geoffrey Gibbs

FORENSIC scientists were yesterday seeking to confirm the identity of cremated human remains found in the boot of a car in which a Devon-based businessman shot himself to death in front of armed police officers.

As police carried out a detailed search of the farm where Derek Levon, aged 61, killed himself on Friday, the detective leading the investigation said he doubted Mr Levon's wife Polly would be found.

He said a suicide note dated Boxing Day and posted to Tiverton police station indicated that both Mr and Mrs Levon planned to commit suicide.

He said Mr Levon, who worked in London in the electronics business, had cited "various reasons" for the planned suicide, but had made no mention of business worries or of the cancer from which his wife was suffering.

Officers went to the farm near Tiverton after the Levon home at Silverton, near Exeter was destroyed by arson on Friday. When police arrived they discovered Mr Levon sitting in a car with the engine running. He was holding a gun to his head and trying to kill himself with exhaust fumes.

An officer persuaded him to switch off the engine but an hour and a half of negotiations ended with Mr Levon shooting himself.

## 'Only one fingerprint' found at Saudi murder scene

POLICE in Saudi Arabia have found a fingerprint from only one of two British nurses facing a murder charge in their alleged victim's flat, it was claimed yesterday.

According to the London-based Saudi newspaper Al-Hayat, Lucy McLauchlan, aged 31, from Dundee, and 41-year-old Deborah Parry, from the Midlands, have confessed to killing Australian colleague Yvonne Gilford, aged 55, at her flat at the King Fahd military hospital in Dhahran, where all three worked.

But in a report yesterday, the paper claimed police had only found one fingerprint from one of the two nurses in Miss Gilford's flat.

All other prints were said to be the victim's.

Al-Hayat quoted police officers as saying one of the nurses confessed to the killing immediately after their arrest on December 20, while the other admitted her part in the crime two days later.

British officials refused to discuss the case or comment on whether the two nurses had made confessions. The Foreign Office in London also declined to comment.

Yesterday's report came just hours after Saudi's ambassador to Britain, Dr Ghazi Algosaibi, pledged the two nurses would receive a fair trial.

British officials are still trying to secure legal representation for the two nurses and are expected to visit them in prison today or tomorrow.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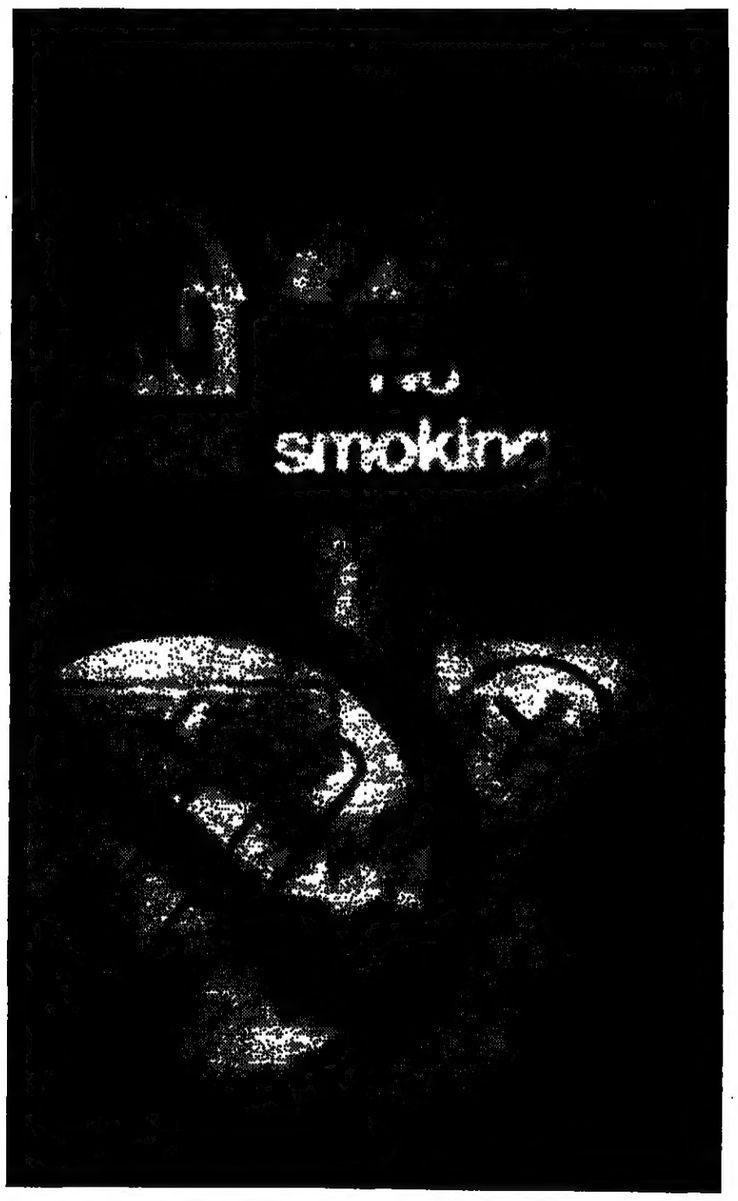


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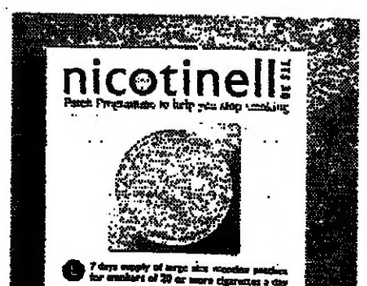


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Peru's Marxist rebels free 20 more hostages from embassy after talks with minister

# Hint of hope in Lima crisis

Jane Díaz-Limaco in Lima

TALKS between Peru's government and leftwing Tupac Amaru rebels produced the first tentative signs of progress in the Lima hostage crisis with the release of 20 more hostages and an apparent easing of rebel demands.

But some of the remaining 83 hostages warned that their situation was becoming more precarious as rebels whittled down the group of captives to those they identified most closely with the Peruvian administration.

Amid concern about an apparent deadlock in negotiations, the arrival at the besieged Japanese ambassador's residence on Saturday of the government's designated negotiator, the education minister Domingo Palermo, brought some hope.

In the first confirmation that the government was talking to the rebels, Mr Palermo entered the rebel-held building. His negotiations with the rebel leader, Néstor Cerpa, lasted three-and-a-half hours.

Mr Palermo later said they had made "advances" towards solving the crisis.

Shortly afterwards, the rebels released 20 hostages in what they termed a "goodwill gesture", maintaining an effort to convince Peruvians that they differ from the country's other rebel group, Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path), in considering violence only as a final resort.

The queue of freed hostages, dressed in suits and clutching plastic bags, lingered by the stately columns of the residence to wave goodbye to those left behind.

Among the first to be freed was Juan Enrique Pendavis, the president of the Peruvian exporters' society, who read a statement signed by Mr Cerpa.

It protested that the government continued to confuse the Tupac Amaru group with Shining Path.

Mr Cerpa's statement said his commando was willing to negotiate its withdrawal and that the path towards a lasting peace should start with a revision of the harsh prison conditions in which rebel inmates have been held for years.

One analyst, Raúl Gonzáles, said there were definite signs of progress. He said the rebels had apparently dropped their previous demand for the release of Tupac Amaru prisoners. This has apparently been substituted by that of improving prison conditions.

The freeing of the latest group of hostages — who include the ambassadors of the Dominican Republic and Malaysia, 10 ethnic Japanese businessmen and seven Peruvian officials — seems to have kindled hopes of a peaceful solution. However, a letter from Japanese hostages to Japan's government said the situation inside the residence was becoming more dangerous and that the risks to the remaining hostages were "getting worse every day".

A Japanese embassy official in Lima denied reports that some companies have been asked directly for ransoms for their representatives. Most of the Japanese businessmen being held were among those freed in the latest group.

The rebels now seem to be seeking a way out within the ground rules imposed by Peru's president, Alberto Fujimori, who has refused to free any jailed guerrillas but has offered guarantees if they lay down their arms.

The diplomats say that Lima might offer to create a commission to review prison conditions as part of a deal, while the captors are likely to demand safe passage, either to their Peruvian jungle stronghold or a friendly country such as Cuba.

Yesterday, the Lima newspaper La República published a letter which it claimed was signed by at least 16 prominent hostages, including Peru's foreign minister, Francisco Tudela. It proposed that the rebel commando be flown into exile in a neutral country.

The letter also called for all Tupac Amaru prisoners, estimated to number about 400, to be placed in a single institution under the supervision of the United Nations and the International Red Cross.

Peace talks should take place with rebel leaders along the lines of recent talks in Guatemala, and aim at reaching an accord that would allow Tupac Amaru to lay down its arms and become a legal organisation, it said.

Domingo Palermo, Peru's education minister, persuaded rebels holding the Lima compound to make their 'goodwill gesture' on Saturday PHOTOGRAPH: EUGENE HOSHIKO

## News in brief

### '600 arrests' since shooting of Uday

IRAQ'S former intelligence chief said Iraqi authorities had arrested more than 600 army, party and government officials following an assassination attempt on the eldest son of President Saddam Hussein.

"The arrests were made within what is called in Iraq an emergency plan which stipulates the detention of all suspected figures within the army, government and party," Wafiq al-Samerai said.

Authorities said Uday, aged 32, was shot by gunmen on December 12 while driving in the capital. An opposition group claimed three of its operatives drove a car disguised as a security agent's close enough to Uday to hurl a grenade and then rake him with machine-gun fire as he struggled to escape.

A representative of the Al-Dawa Party in Syria and Lebanon said the attempt on Uday had been planned for five months and the three attackers had escaped.

Uday has since been shown on television greeting well-wishers from his hospital bed.

"Those arrested included Staff Colonel Thaer Hussam al-Din, head of Uday's special bureau, and several other high-ranking officers from the security forces," said Mr Samerai, an active opposition figure based in Syria since he defected in 1994.

He said Qussay, Saddam's second son, had personally interrogated many officers, including Staff Major-General Saleh Yousuf Saal, commander of the Seventh Infantry Division.

Mr Samerai said the body of Colonel Abdullah al-Douri — a security officer who is also co-ordinator of the Iraq Olympic Committee headed by Uday — was found several days after the assassination attempt. — *Agencies, Damascus and Kuwait.*

### Suu Kyi leaves home

THE Burmese opposition leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, attended a wedding celebration and visited a museum honouring her assassinated father yesterday, but Burmese authorities said she would need clearance to leave her tightly guarded compound.

Officials indicated that Ms Suu Kyi, confined to her home since a series of student demonstrations earlier this month, could leave her house "on a case-by-case basis" after a security review to approve her requests to go out. Government security cars will accompany her.

But Ms Suu Kyi failed at the weekend for the fifth week in succession to appear at a Rangoon intersection, where she has spoken to supporters in the past. A crowd of 120 people waited for an hour, then dispersed peacefully.

The 1991 Nobel peace prize winner, the target of an increasing crackdown by the military government, left her home for the first time in three weeks on Friday, to visit the grave of her mother on the eighth anniversary of her death. — *AP, Rangoon.*

### Call to ban concerts

FIVE Islamist Kuwaiti deputies are seeking to ban concerts and fashion shows in the Muslim state, a parliamentary official said yesterday.

"The bill places a full ban on public concerts and fashion shows," the official said.

"It stipulates that violators of the ban should face up to a six-month prison term, a fine of at least 5,000 dinars (£10,000) and the closure of the facility used for holding a concert or a fashion show," the official said.

The bill requires the approval of parliament and the emir, Sheikh Jaber al-Ahmad al-Sabah, before it becomes law.

Islamists have attacked the government for allowing concerts after a five-year ban following the 1990-91 Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

Islamists object to women singing for male audiences, or vice-versa. Recent Western-style fashion shows have also drawn criticism.

Kuwait already bans public dancing and alcohol. Discotheques were closed in the 1960s. — *Reuter, Kuwait.*

### Nigeria frees hostages

ALL 28 hostages held on an offshore barge by Nigerian workers demanding big pay rises have been released unharmed, a Philippine diplomat said.

The hostages, who were held for five days before being released, were all foreigners — 10 Filipinos, nine Frenchmen, five Indians, two Britons, one Lebanese and one Belgian.

"They are safe now. They were taken off the barge yesterday by the navy and brought to the naval base in Calabar," Hermes Dorado, consul-general of the Philippine embassy in Lagos, said.

They had been held hostage by 60 Nigerian workers on the barge, about 30 miles offshore from the oil-producing town of Ekat, since December 23.

Mr Dorado said the Nigerians had also been evacuated by the navy to its base, but he did not know the outcome of negotiations to end the siege.

The dispute involved a French oil services company identified as NTPM that employed the workers on its barge, the WB-82, which transports oil from onshore fields to tankers. — *Reuter, Lagos.*

### Algerian militants on attack

MILITANTS cut off the roads and telephone lines to Ain Defla, a village south of Algiers, and killed 28 people there with long knives and axes yesterday, hours before a car bomb exploded near Algiers, the government said.

The militants said they belonged to the Armed Islamic Group, which has claimed responsibility for many similar attacks in recent years.

The attack came hours before a car bomb exploded in El Harrac (above), a suburb of Algiers, injuring at least 20 people in the third such bombing in the past week, authorities said. Hospital sources put the number of wounded at 35.

In the past week in Algiers, two other car bomb attacks have killed 13 people and injured more than 150. — *AP, Algiers.*

### Bomb attack on Tibet office

A BOMB exploded outside a government office in Lhasa, capital of Tibet. Local Chinese authorities yesterday described the Christmas day blast as "an appalling act of terrorism," radio reports said.

"The bombing ... was an organised, planned, and targeted counter-revolutionary bombing incident staged by the Dalai [Lama] clique," the regional Communist Party committee said according to the radio report. The London-based Tibet Information Network said five people were wounded. — *Reuter, Beijing.*

"Go to Thorntons, Waitrose, Marks," she commanded. "They'll run out. We must have some in the house." The pressure was on. I bought more. Not enough. Mother panicked. "Buy stollen," she begged.

G2 page 4

# German upper house threatens to block EMU

Ian Traynor in Bonn

GERMANY'S upper house of parliament could block the country's participation in the single European currency, an opposition figure threatened at the weekend.

Warning that European monetary union could cost the country as much as the hugely expensive process of German unification, Gerhard Schroeder, the premier of Lower Saxony, told the government it could not take opposition support for the euro for granted.

Mr Schroeder's Social Democrats control the upper house in Bonn in opposition to Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrat-Liberal coalition's control of the lower house.

His threat was denounced as cheap demagoguery by government figures, who accused Mr Schroeder of seeking to sow panic among a public worried about trading the reliable German mark for the untested euro.

German unification has come at a cost of more than 1,000 billion marks (£390 billion) in transfers from west to east since 1990. The euphoria of unity has evaporated. Mr Schroeder touched a raw nerve by warning that European monetary union could mean a replay of the costly process of rebuilding east Germany.

"If the conditions are not right, you can't approve of [EMU]," Mr Schroeder told the weekly Focus magazine. He could not rule out that the Social Democrats "would torpedo the euro's introduction in the Bundesrat [upper house]."

Theo Waigel, the finance minister, charged Mr Schroeder with "frivolity" and "populism" aimed at serving his own political ambitions.

But a respected figure in the German economic establishment denounced the government's policy as a "premature monetary adventure" that would plunge Europe into a crisis.

Wilhelm Hankel, a retired Bonn banker and economics professor, said the single currency could turn Europe into "a social and political desert". He predicted company bankruptcies after the currencies are merged.

Wolfgang Schäuble, the number two in Mr Kohl's Christian Democrats, said: "European monetary union is a huge step on the way to [European] political union."

In an interview in today's Spiegel magazine, he hints at government strategy in the new year on deciding who would join the single currency, and when.

Membership by the January 1999 launch date would not be "too big", he said. But in the three years envisaged before euro coins and banknotes replace national currencies, other countries would join.

"In the framework of the first phase of monetary union, there can be different solutions. If a certain country has not yet met the criteria, but is on the right road, it can just join a year later.

"The three years of the first phase of monetary union offer all those making serious efforts the chance to join before the euro notes are in everyday circulation."

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# Wild West's bad old days return for wandering bison

Park rangers are being turned into hunters, reports **Martin Walker** in Washington

THE famed bison of the American plains, once hunted almost to extinction, are under threat again after a lawsuit brought by a Church-owned ranch for a mass slaughter by rangers in a national park.

Environmentalists are up in arms about the planned cull at Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming, which follows claims by the Church Universal and Triumphant that wandering bison, the symbol of the old West, are causing disease in its cattle.

The Sierra Club is appealing against a judge's decision to allow the slaughter by park rangers, who are identified by their bison badges.

"For them to trap and slaughter these animals is a fundamental distortion of their mission," said Jim Angell, one of the club's lawyers.

The Church, which runs a large cattle ranch in Montana, just across the state line from Yellowstone, claims that its cattle are at risk from brucellosis, a bacterial disease which is carried by the wandering bison.

The Church also says that it faces material loss from damage to its fences, and has won a legal order that all wandering bison, not just diseased ones, should be killed as they leave the park.

Although feared extinct for many years, bison were found in small herds in the remote mountains of Yellowstone Park more than 80 years ago. Their numbers have recovered to about 3,500, and they are no longer listed as an endangered species.

More than 600 bison are now moving from the high ground to the park's northern border and then on to Montana, using trails through the snow created by the park rangers to facilitate snowmobile travel.

"Our preference is to let nature take its course, but we are responding to the concerns of the state of Montana," said a park spokeswoman, Martha Karle.

The original proposal, to let rangers and hunters draw lots for the right to shoot the bison, was dropped because of fears that the public would be outraged.

Last year, when 200 wandering bison were shot by park rangers, locals who saw them being felled near their homes raised a public outcry.

The rangers have in the past tried using helicopters and horses to herd the animals back to the park. But the park boundaries bear no relation to the feeding pattern of the bison, which usually head for the low-lying pastures outside the park as the winter deepens.

The bison will now be trapped and shipped to slaughterhouses, and their meat donated to Indian tribes, soup kitchens and other local charities.

# Serb police block 50,000 marchers in Belgrade

Reuter in Belgrade

SERBIAN security police blocked a march by 50,000 people in Belgrade yesterday in the 42nd successive day of pro-democracy demonstrations in Yugoslavia.

The protest column was intercepted when it poured into the main pedestrian precinct after fiery speeches by leaders of the Zajedno (Together) opposition coalition in Republic Square.

Riot police were enforcing a ban on street marches imposed by the ruling Socialist Party (SPS) after a clash between Zajedno protesters and government loyalists brought into Belgrade to intimidate the opposition.

A Zajedno supporter was reportedly trampled to death by comrades fleeing a police charge. Police created two cordons to box in demonstrators on the Knez Mihailova pedestrian lane yesterday.

Protesters reacted, as before, by walking in circles as if they were imprisoned. They also shouted "murderers" and "dogs" at police.

Up to 250,000 people on some occasions have demonstrated in Belgrade and other Serbian towns daily, in a campaign to reverse the SPS annulment of municipal elections won by the Zajedno bloc.

Zajedno, later backed by the findings of an Organisation of Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) mission, accused the SPS of vote-rigging. It wants its victories reinstated in 14 cities including Belgrade. The SPS swept other municipalities.

Western governments have warned President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia that Serbia will forfeit financial aid unless he concedes SPS electoral defeats.

Opposition leaders said they received an open letter to Mr Milosevic, his army chief, and university students in the second-largest city, Nis, from representatives of several military units.

Two tired tyrants, page 9

# Russian manual warns children the new enemy may lurk even in a friend's house

David Hearst in Moscow

ONCE upon a time, when the enemy was a dot on the radar screen, the advice to Soviet schoolchildren was clear.

Five-year-olds were taught how to recognise the profile of an American B52 bomber in the sky, or a British Vulcan. There were also helpful hints on what they should do if they saw the flash of a nuclear explosion.

Today, those civil defence lessons — called Grazdanskaya Oborona or Grob (meaning coffin) — have been replaced by a terrifying manual on personal security, misleadingly entitled the Basis for Safe Living. It has tips on every aspect of life:

How to walk to school: "Study the possible alternatives and try to change your route as often as possible ... You must also be informed about the places where youth gangs meet, or badly lit streets and boulevards."

How to dress: "If you put on a scarf, put both ends under the coat and make sure they do not hang on your back, otherwise your attacker can seize them in order to strangle you."

What to do if you are invited to a friend's home: "If you visit somebody's house, look around. Remember how the rooms are arranged and doors, how the locks work, where the telephones are, and where the neighbours are, because you must be ready to leave the flat at any moment."

And what to do if taken hostage: "It's very important to observe personal hygiene and cleanliness as far as the situation permits, to do physical training, to calm yourself and to relax using meditation."

Natasha, aged 15, said of the new school book: "Reading the manual, I have the feeling that I am surrounded by enemies. Thank God it is not so."

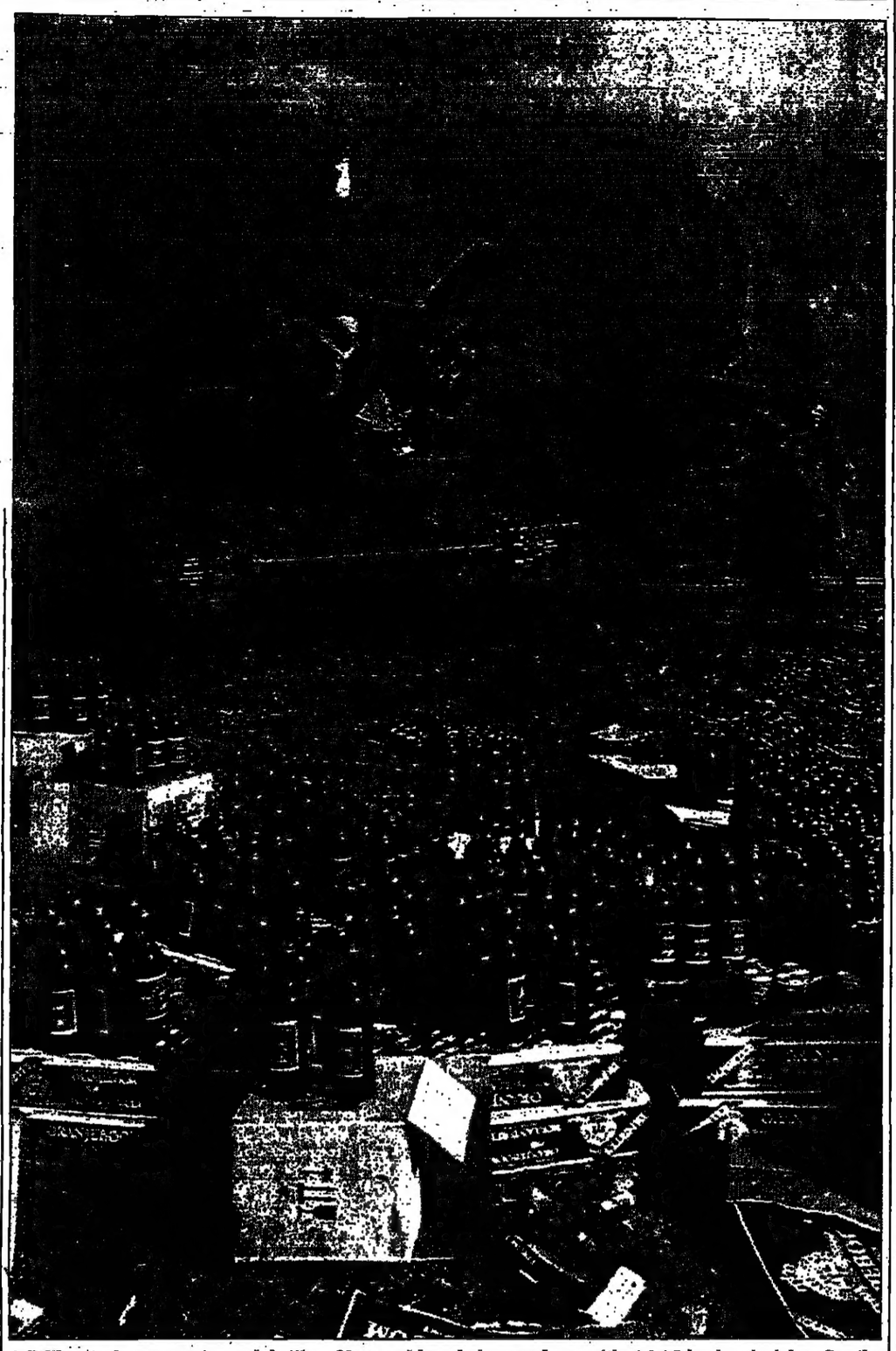
Russians are fed a steady diet of disaster including television programmes such as Catastrophe of the Week.

صكذا من الاصل



Afghan militia breaks six-week deadlock

# Taliban forces push further north



A Taliban tank prepares to crush bottles of beer and brandy in accordance with strict Islamic principles after the militia — now advancing north — took the Afghan capital, Kabul, in September PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN MOORE

Suzanne Goldenberg in New Delhi

TALIBAN forces pushed their enemies further from the Afghan capital, Kabul, at the weekend in their first big advance in weeks.

After a 24-hour artillery and rocket exchange, the Taliban — which captured Kabul three months ago and controls two-thirds of Afghanistan — moved their front line to 25 miles north of the capital.

On Saturday morning the Uzbek warlord in the north, General Rashid Dostam, retaliated with bombing raids on Kabul and Taliban front-line positions.

The weekend's events follow a six-week deadlock between the Islamist militia and the bizarre opposition alliance of Gen Dostam, a former general in the Afghan army, and Ahmed Shah Massoud, once a legendary mojahedin commander. The Taliban advance brings it closer to Cmdr Massoud's stronghold in the Panjshir valley. On Saturday, Cmdr Massoud's forces retreated from the resort town of Stalif.

Taliban soldiers are now within three miles of the Bagram airbase held by Gen Dostam, which has been under fire for the past month.

"Bagram airport has been paralysed," said Kahirullah Kherkhaw, the governor of Kabul province. He said Taliban tanks had blocked all roads leading to the base.

But the greatest casualty may be the morale of an opposition alliance founded on expediency. Gen Dostam and Cmdr Massoud found common cause only with the advance of the Taliban.

On Saturday dozens of bodies, wearing the uniforms of Cmdr Massoud and Gen Dostam, lay where they had fallen around Kalakan, 12 miles north of Kabul. A few were covered with blankets; several had banknotes or coins stuffed into their mouths — a sign of the Taliban's contempt for opponents they dismiss as mercenaries.

The Taliban said they had killed as many as 80 enemy troops, and lost three men. They also claimed to have taken more than 100 prisoners, and several dozen men could be seen aboard trucks heading towards Kabul.

Otherwise, the roads were given up to a procession of refugees who had deserted villages along the road leading further north to Bagram.

Norbert Holl, the United Nations envoy, has been shuttling between Afghanistan and neighbouring Pakistan trying to broker a ceasefire which would lead to an eventual settlement. But the Taliban do not appear ready to compromise with Gen Dostam, who previously served the Soviet-installed government.

"We are now fighting against those people who are not willing to give up their power," said Sher Mohammed Stanikzai, the deputy foreign minister. "Rashid Dostam has been directly involved in 18 years of bloody war. I think if the government excuses Rashid Dostam, the nation will not excuse him."

# Netanyahu provokes division and distrust

Six months into his controversial tenure, Israel's rightwing leader has succeeded in alienating just about everyone, writes **Charles Holmes**

DEPENDING on your standpoint, Israel's prime minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, has in 1996 — almost singlehandledly — either destroyed the hard-won progress made toward peace with the Arabs, moving the Middle East closer to war, or pursued a "realistic" peace policy that makes Israel less susceptible to terrorism, and the Jewish state less vulnerable.

The contrary views are felt strongly in Israel, reflecting the enduring division as to how it should achieve peace and best protect itself.

After more than six months in office, Israel's conservative leader has altered foreign and domestic policy and changed the premise upon which the historic Israel-Palestinian accords were established.

In the process, he has pleased almost no one.

As Israeli and Palestinian negotiators inch towards a long-delayed agreement, expected to be concluded in the next few days, on ending Israeli occupation in most of the West Bank, the progress has not dispelled concerns about where Mr Netanyahu is taking his country.

He talks of peace, but also of expanding Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip — a highly provocative policy criticised by Arab states and world leaders, including President Bill Clinton.

Mr Netanyahu also says he wants Israel to live side-by-side with the Palestinians and to fulfil existing peace agreements — but to deny them their ultimate dream of nationhood.

His problems stem from what analysts regard as an inconsistency between his hardline ideological background and the political reality he inherited when he took office in June.

As an opposition leader in parliament and a candidate, Mr Netanyahu condemned the Israeli-Palestinian accords and sought support from rightwing nationalists and Jewish religious parties. He vowed to preserve Jewish settlements, oppose a Palestinian state and resist peace formulae entailing any further land concessions.

Yet he also vowed to continue seeking "peace with security" — a phrase that means different things to the various factions within his ruling coalition.

In office, he has run headlong into bitter differences within his government, and intense international pressure to salvage the Israeli-Palestinian accords.

Reached by the previous government in 1993, the peace agreements with the Palestinians represented a new dimension in the Jewish state's relations with the Arab world.

"There are heads of state who try to please everybody all of the time," Nahum Barnea, a prominent analyst, wrote in Yediot Aharonot, Israel's most widely read newspaper. "But only Netanyahu manages to disappoint everyone, and please nobody."

Palestinian students chat in front of Hebron's recently reopened university

In a newspaper poll conducted in Israel last week, 68 per cent of respondents said they were dissatisfied with Mr Netanyahu's decision-making, and 23 per cent who voted for Mr Netanyahu said they regretted having done so.

Mr Netanyahu's policies will lead to war, complain liberals who supported the then incumbent, Shimon Peres, and his Labour-led coalition government in the close election last May.

They argue that his delay in fulfilling previously signed agreements generated the pressures that led to bloodshed when gun battles erupted between Israelis and Palestinians in September.

Conservatives who supported Mr Netanyahu say he is not hawkish enough. Jewish settlers have vowed to rise up if he proceeds with the planned troop withdrawal from Hebron.

Abroad, relations with Israel's Arab peace partners, Egypt and Jordan, are at an all-time low. The possibility of a renewed war with Syria has been broached.

Mr Netanyahu's allies complain that the new administration was never given a fair chance.

In Israel, the emerging Hebron plan has provoked sharp divisions within Mr Netanyahu's rightwing coalition.

Ariel Sharon, a hardliner and advocate of spreading Jewish settlements throughout the West Bank, is leading opposition within the cabinet to the Hebron deal.

There are also raw feelings among other Likud bloc members that Mr Netanyahu has shut them out of the decision-making process. He has surrounded himself with a coterie of policy advisers, mostly American immigrants and scholars.

Apart from peacemaking, Mr Netanyahu has also faced other difficulties in both style and substance.

At 48, the youngest man ever elected as Israel's prime minister, he has left himself vulnerable to criticism that he was not experienced enough for the job.

His differences with respected military and police commanders have been widely reported. Israeli media reported earlier this month that officials warned against the new settlement policy.

Ami Ayalon, head of the Shin Bet internal security services, reportedly told him: "If you say 'settlements', you've said 'war'."

On Hebron, even Mr Netanyahu's supporters question why, if it was eventually his intent, he did not quickly fulfil the withdrawal agreement instead of allowing tensions to rise.

"Binyamin Netanyahu promised to bring peace and security to the public," the daily Ha'aretz stated recently. "But meantime, Netanyahu has proved completely incompetent in furthering the peace process and in reaching greater security, and even the settlers are no longer prepared to trust what he says." — Cox News Service.

# Logging free-for-all ravages Cambodia

**Seth Mydans** in Prek Phnov reports on how the government and Khmer Rouge are cashing in on the illegal felling of forests

LATE at night, trucks rumble past a military checkpoint on the northern outskirts of Phnom Penh, bringing timber from deep inside the forests of central Cambodia.

The logs are taken, with government collusion, to timberyards on the banks of the Tonle Sap River that are owned by Thai, Taiwanese and Japanese companies. From there, some will be illegally shipped abroad.

Timber, and its illegal export, is Cambodia's biggest industry — one that the king, Norodom Sihanouk, has warned could turn the country into a desert in the next century.

Devastated by three decades of war, and racked by political infighting and widespread corruption, Cambodia today is a free-for-all of illegal activity.

Environmentalists believe that the two sides in the long-running civil war, and high-ranking government and military officials, are all involved in the logging business.

They say the government and the Khmer Rouge have in the past few years stepped up tree-felling to finance their operations, even though Cambodia has been stripped of half its forests since 1970.

Forests that once covered 70 per cent of the country now range over about a third, the London-based environmental lobby group Global Witness said.

Logging has been officially banned since the start of this year, and an export ban has been in place since April last year. But the bans have had little effect.

"They have been utterly disregarded," said Charmian Gooch, director of Global Witness. Cambodia's high-grade tropical hardwoods, sometimes marked as being from Thailand, continue to make their way around the world. They are used in inlays, trinkets, furniture and home construction.

The group also claims that the country's two prime ministers, Hun Sen and Prince Norodom Ranariddh, have secretly signed concessions selling off virtually all of Cambodia's remaining forests.

"Ministers and officials of the Royal Cambodian government are heavily implicated in the destruction of Cambodia's forests," a report by the group said, adding that there were few other countries where so much forest had "been sold in such a short time, and in such great secrecy, to foreign companies".

Cambodia needs its forests, according to Sam Rainsy, a former finance minister who is now an opposition politician.

"They are at the centre of the ecosystem," he said. "They are like a sponge, soaking up the water in the rainy season and releasing it in the dry season.

"Already we are seeing an acceleration of erosion, flooding and the siltation of rivers and lakes. We are beginning to starve in the drought and drown in the floods."

> 'We are beginning to starve in the drought and drown in the floods'

International financial institutions warn that continued illegal logging could jeopardise their support.

In the short term, financial experts say, logging is bringing officials a huge amount of money which is not reflected in the budget the donor groups are supporting. In the long term, it squanders the country's primary natural resource for as little as one-fifth of its value.

In May the International Monetary Fund suspended a £12 million instalment of a £75 million three-year loan, expressing concern about the government's secret logging.

A decision to cut off the loan entirely could cause "an erosion of confidence of the international community, which in turn would have serious consequences for Cambodia's economic programme," said Hubert Neiss, director of the fund's Central Asia department.

At a meeting in Tokyo in July with the World Bank and other international donors, the two Cambodian prime ministers pledged to put in place measures to end illegal logging. — New York Times.

## News in brief

### Workers strike in Israel

Tens of thousands of Israelis paralysed the country by walking out of their jobs yesterday in protest at the arrest of a leading trade union official.

Banks and government offices closed, flights out of Ben Gurion airport were cancelled, and television and radio stations went off air. Water, electricity and telephone companies offered an emergency service. — AP.

### East Timor deaths

Indonesian troops killed one or two East Timorese youths in a raid on Coluhon village in eastern Dili on Friday to capture those responsible for beating a soldier to death, Timorese activists said yesterday. — AP.

### Madagascar poll

The people of Madagascar, voting in a run-off presidential election yesterday, were expected to back the former Marxist military ruler, Didier Ratsiraka, against the former president, Albert Zafy. The turnout was low. — Reuter.

### Storm toll rises

The death toll from a storm which hit Malaysia on Christmas Day has reached 162 after more bodies were found by rescue workers, the national Bernama news agency said yesterday. — Reuter.

### Death on roads

At least 910 people have died on South Africa's roads during the Christmas break and the toll is expected to rise as holiday-makers return home from coastal resorts, officials said yesterday. — Reuter.

### Cruellest cut

A surgeon in Pescara, eastern Italy, cut out a patient's only kidney because he thought it was a malignant growth, in a routine stomach ulcer operation earlier this month, health authorities said yesterday. The patient, aged 46, is receiving daily dialysis treatment. — Reuter.

# South Korean strikers rally at ruling party HQ

AP in Seoul

AT A RALLY on the fourth day of South Korea's largest-ever labour protest, some 20,000 workers vowed yesterday to fight President Kim Young-sam's government, saying it threatened their jobs.

"Down with Kim Young-sam! Disband the New Korea Party!" the workers shouted as they marched past the party's headquarters after a rally at Yoido Plaza.

The ruling party passed a new law on Thursday in a secretive, pre-dawn parliamentary session with no opposition members present. Labour unions immediately called a national strike, saying the law favoured businesses unfairly by giving them increased powers to lay off workers.

About 373,000 workers have since joined the strike at some 700 work sites, union leaders said. Car and shipbuilding industries were hardest hit.

At yesterday's rally, union leaders vowed to continue the protests until the end of January.

"Fight until death!" workers shouted as loudspeakers blared labour songs. Hundreds of red, blue and yellow anti-government banners fluttered over the plaza in the wintry air.

A brief scuffle erupted as workers tried to push into the party headquarters, but no violence or arrests were reported.

Government officials have said they will keep the new law, which they said was designed to help the economy.

South Korea has sought labour reforms as its economy has slowed rapidly. This year, it is expected to register a record £12.5 billion trade deficit — twice that of last year.

The law makes it easier for businesses to lay off employees en masse, something unheard of in the country. Businesses can also cut hours more easily and thus reduce workers' incomes, union leaders said.

The government had hoped to placate workers by granting greater rights to unionise. But workers are angry that the new freedoms will not take effect for several years.

Underground railway workers in Pusan yesterday joined their colleagues in Seoul, who walked out a day earlier, forcing trains to run late.

The leading car maker, Hyundai, and three other car makers — Kia, Ssangyong and Asia — were idle for the fourth successive day.

But other key industries, such as semiconductors and electronics, as well as railways and other utilities, have remained largely unaffected.

● North Korea apologised for the first time yesterday for an incursion by one of its submarines into South Korean waters in September, expressing "deep regret" in a statement hammered out with United States diplomats.

The brief statement, carried by the Korean central news agency and Pyongyang radio, promised there would be no repetitions of the incident.

Seoul cautiously welcomed the apology and said it opened the way to talks aimed at securing a lasting peace to replace the truce that ended the 1950-53 Korean war.

But independent analysts in South Korea said they doubted Pyongyang was sincere, and some called it a desperate gambit to secure US food aid.

# Singapore's unloved parents turn to the law

New York Times in Singapore

THE elderly Wongs struggled to make ends meet for eight years in Singapore after their daughter cut off their allowance, forcing them to live on less than £10 a day.

"It seems that my daughter prefers to pay for the living expenses of her dogs rather than for ours," Mr Wong, aged 71, said.

Officials, too, were shocked by this filial denial of responsibility in a culture where family bonds and obligations remain strong. But to their surprise, the Wongs' experience turned out to be far from uncommon.

When the tribunal for the maintenance of parents opened its doors in June, the Wongs joined a stream of neglected parents applying for help. The tribunal clerks, overwhelmed by the crowd, handed out numbers to keep them in line.

Caring for parents is something Asian societies have long expected of grown children, but Singapore's tribunal now provides a legal mechanism for parents over 60 to demand support, and a system of mediation and hearings to resolve claims.

The tribunal has dealt with at least 200 cases, said Walter Woon, the legislator and law professor who proposed the scheme two years ago. Then, he said, many people doubted that Singaporean children would turn their backs on their parents, or that parents would sue their children.

The problem is one of the effects of rapid social changes in a country where, in one generation, many people have moved from crowded alleys to vast blocks of flats, and from poverty to affluence.

Many parents, immigrants who grew up in Third World countries, now live with their well-educated, well-paid children in a society they hardly recognise.

"I don't buy this Asian values stuff," Mr Woon said. "It's human values. It is modernisation that is changing things more than Westernisation."

It is also demographics. Singapore's population is ageing faster than that of any other Asian country, partly because of a successful family-planning programme. Within 25 years, more than one in four will be over 60.

The tribunal is the Singaporean government's latest attempt at social engineering, and such programmes tend to work. A "stop at two" children campaign, to encourage small families in the 1960s, quickly brought the birth rate down. In 1987 the campaign was reversed, with a programme urging: "Have three or more if you can afford it." Singapore's population is 3 million and slowly growing again.

The tribunal is the next step in the social engineering programme, and is prompted by figures suggesting a rapid growth of the elderly population.

"In Singapore we look at things and say, we've got to fix it before it becomes a problem," Mr Woon said. "We are trying to maintain a social climate that values the family."

Other evidence has supported the findings of the tribunal: medical workers reported that increasing numbers of children were failing to visit parents in hospital, and in some cases were reluctant to take them home when discharged.

"They seldom visit their aged parents in hospital," said Ong Chen Siew, an administrator at Alexandra Hospital. "They refuse to answer calls. Sometimes we have to go to their workplaces to look for them."

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# We need ideas not wheezes

## Tony Blair must fill the gap

MOST of us know all about living Against. We had four-and-a-half decades of that: citizens of a cluster of societies we called the Free World, ranged Against the alleged threat of Soviet Communism. But that threat keeled over and died seven years ago. The nineties have thus far been fretfully expended on trying to decide what we are living For. They have not been a great success. Whether they realised it or not, our political leaders were children of the cold war. The threat was a necessary part of their equipment and their thinking. American presidents needed the lurid spectre of a rival system to demand sacrifices from their people and to fund the sacrifice of defence spending. Britain, like its European partners, similarly depended on the same underpinning of apprehension. The Iron Lady was For many things: but she was fundamentally Against.

Take away such chilling certainties and the content of residual thought has looked thin, going on impoverished. America has had enough of sacrifices and largely withdrawn from the world under a president elected to keep the home fires stoked high, specifically not to send troops far away to danger. Recession — influenced in no small part by the decline in pump-priming government spending on defence — has sapped confidence throughout most of Western Europe, and left the liberated nations of the East to languish in disillusion. We are all, in our various ways, For freedom. But what does that amount to in an era where the detritus of the Soviet Empire has left our various forces of the democratic left flailing and uncertain, unable to find a spot along the spectrum of ideology which voters can relate to. The wreck of Moscow has mired much else besides. As one extreme extrapolation of socialism has vanished in flames, all its variants — however different, however innocuous — have come into question. No such agonisings on the right, though: theirs is the claimed victory, to be celebrated apparently by turning the management of politics over to economists and bankers who believe that the force of the market is all you know and all you need to know. A brutal trap. The left still feels it has lost the argument. The right bestows its authority on a series of mechanical nostrums. The politicians, devoid of a threat and of the ideas which they built upon it, have retreated into bland, unacknowledged impotence. They are not well-loved. How could they be? But they have not thought of anything fresh or coherent to say.

BRITAIN'S 1992 election came too early in the new cycle to make such rethinking necessary. It was enough that John Major was not Margaret Thatcher, and that her more triumphant policies could be pursued without the hectoring boom of their mistress. 1997 will be entirely different, with the political classes caught in mid-stream. Many Conservatives, having seen one threat depart, have set about inventing another. What is the "European super-state" but another beast from the depths, out to devour us? Its menace is regarded just as fearfully, just as cynically and just as unanalytically as Brezhnev's legions long ago. The theme has allure, for it exalts nationalism. And nationalism — on cue — is burgeoning again around the world, as though the purity of a single race or nation state was a good in itself (and not, as usual, the very antithesis of that).

Single issues? Of course. Where there are no arches of ideology, individual tablets of stone naturally dominate. There is a frothing after the bygone morality of a distant age. Here comes the abortion debate again: as though it were the determinant of the way we live now. Here are the calls for the Church to lead in a Britain where organised religion has become the pursuit of a tiny, shrinking minority. But such voices address only parts of the problem; they cannot reach conclusions because they are not structured to do so. They can only pretend that a single thrust will reach wider. Our world is full of dragons for the slaying: but we can't agree which dragons matter or the order of their execution.

Such a diagnosis would be deeply dismaying — as dismayed as we purport to feel — if it were founded on fact. But of course it isn't. We are more masters of our own fate than at any time in the last half-century. We no longer need to live in nuclear fear. We have infinite possibilities before us if we can just shake off the ingrown assumptions that are part of our heritage.

The prospect of an election — the first big vote of a truly new era — where threats have to re-confected and the hoary arguments of the irrelevant past replayed is not a cheering one. It ought, as the year of decision dawns, to give every major party pause for thought: but Labour above all. Tony Blair has the new voice. He has buried much of Labour's past with exemplary determination. It will take an earthquake to keep him out of Downing Street. But he and his advisers and their focus groups are caught on the difference between For and Against. They are Against another Conservative term but do not yet know quite what they are For. This may not matter overmuch on election day but it will matter hugely in the days that follow. For it is not just the lessons of 1992 that Labour has to learn. It is the totally changed imperatives of 1997.

TO CATCH the time here, Mr Blair must first realise that this is a new time. And he should tell us so in unambiguous terms, not the vague generalisations of goodwill and apple pudding. Tap-dancing over tax rates will only matter if nothing else is deemed to matter. What needs saying before any of that is harsher stuff. It should explain why we feel a touch adrift — not merely advance the spread of grunge, Major-like, as an excuse. It should lay out frankly what governments, acting alone, can achieve — and what governments in partnership can do better. It should abandon the pretence of magical improvement at the flip of a ballot box and seek necessary understanding.

Then there will be wider themes which resonate. Democracy itself is beginning to provide them. If not this Europe, what about a more determinedly democratic one, undergoing its own constitutional reform? If not this United Nations, then what? If not this Westminster and huddle of Whitehall, clutching the illusion of power to itself, then where are we to look? If this is our system, how do we make it work better — not to appease the Scots or the Welsh, but to give us a fresh stake? We may not be chasing the Big Idea this crucial year: but we do need something with a stir of excitement. Ideas that spring from the world we have rather than the decrepit undergrowth of the lost world. Ideas with a human dimension. Not wheezes or fixes: ideas. Only a few of them will make a far happier New Year.

## Letters to the Editor

### Pensions all at sea

THE NEW statement on the inadequacies of Tory pensions policies by John Denham, the shadow minister for pensions ("Titanic" pensions policy presages national disaster, December 28) is to be welcomed. His information about personal pensions makes a good case for the pensions review set up last October by Labour. Despite government subsidies, personal pensions and employers' schemes fail to fill the gaps left by savage Tory cuts in the value of the basic state retirement pension and the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme.

The information he unearths was left out of the highly publicised reports from the Borrie and Dahrendorf commissions and the Anson committee. Evidence from across the world shows that while well-regulated private schemes can be satisfactory for the very well-off, they do not provide basic income security for the mass of people reaching retirement.

This is the central point which we will be pressing at the next meeting of the Labour review. It could be the basis for a national agreement. Only through the imaginative and principled reconstruction of state pensions is minimum income security in retirement for everyone possible and affordable.

Barbara Castle.
House of Lords.
Peter Townsend.
Emeritus Professor of Social Policy,
University of Bristol.

# Cold comfort at home

GEORGE MONBIOT (Bleak House, December 24), in describing the appalling state of British homes, reported the Department of the Environment's finding that "one in five homes is beyond salvation" and cannot be made energy efficient. Or at least not at a reasonable price; it would be cheaper to rebuild them.

But we are not pulling down outworn, inefficient properties. We are continuing to live in them. The Government's own statistics show that fewer than 10,000 homes are being removed from the housing stock each year. At this rate, the present stock of houses will not be replaced for 2,400 years. We need to recognise that the problem of cold homes in the UK is closely aligned with the decline in rates of demolition and new building.

An extensive programme of improvements to existing homes is desperately needed, but this should be combined with the construction of substantial numbers of good quality, energy efficient houses for those with small incomes. Then, the future will be slightly less bleak.

(Dr) Brenda Boardman.
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I WELCOME George Monbiot's article on the recently published energy report from the 1991 House Condition Survey. This confirms our worst fears about the extent of fuel poverty (the inability to achieve adequate warmth) in our "superheated nation".

However, press reports indicate that Peter Lilley intends to abolish the system of Fuel Direct whereby people on income support who have difficulty managing their budgets can have money paid directly from their benefit entitlement to meet their fuel costs. This cut will add to the burden of those struggling to cope with the excessive winter fuel costs caused by inadequate housing.

Additionally, the Government now intends to expose the independent, and highly respected, Building Research Establishment, which contributed to this report, to the vagaries of the market by privatising it. What would then happen to such unfashionable or unpalatable research?

Michael King.
Chairman, National Right to Fuel Campaign.
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THROUGH questioning more than 1,700 households in Scotland with regard to the impact of adding VAT to domestic fuel bills, our survey (to be published by Energy Action Scotland early in the new year) found that low-income housholds were more likely to be living in poorer heated homes, living in poorer insulated homes, and relying on more expensive forms of heating.

The financial implications for low income households are that they are not only spending relatively more of their income on VAT on fuel than more affluent families, but on a pro rata basis per square metre, they would also have to spend more in actual cash terms to heat their homes to reasonable temperatures. So it is not unexpected that low-income households were significantly more likely to state that they had cut back on some aspect of fuel use, or cut back elsewhere in their household budget to cope with VAT on fuel bills.

(Dr) Bill Sheldrick.
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REDUCING heating costs and dampness-related health problems in existing homes will not be achieved by simply chucking in a bit of extra insulation. Insulating ceilings without also providing extra ventilation and barriers to the passage of moisture vapour can result in increased condensation, and subsequent wood rot, in loft spaces. Similarly, cavity wall insulation has been linked to penetrating dampness and accelerated wall tie corrosion. These induced building defects will cost far more to rectify than the money saved in reduced fuel consumption.

Jeff Howell.
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### No time to abandon the principles of political duty

I FOUND my friend Hugo Young's end-of-year comments on the "barrenness", "nullity" and "banality" of political life (Forget politics, the real life is in art, December 24) profoundly disturbing. While he disarmingly admits that he is himself "part of it", there is no good reason why he should not find in "politics", during this period of Britain's cultural and social confusion, the raw material for every kind of truth and illuminating observation. Matthew Parris does it often enough, as did Hazlitt in the past and many others besides, while working with and upon the supposed "banality" of their own days.

One of the mistakes Young is making is to confuse "politics" with party. But the bigger mistake, in these Weimar-like times of a moral free-for-all — when another Guardian commentator can describe the "prejudice" against *incest* as "reactionary and cruel" (Paul Foot, November 4) — is for a liberal like Young to join in the general disparagement of the political process itself.

Young writes, violently enough, of the "dross of argument", of the "impotence of power", of "vapourising" and "ranting" politicians and so forth, while "culture" according to him, continues to "scale the heights". This is a false as well as a dangerous antithesis. As for offering us a new work by Harold Pinter — as big a hoaxer as ever deluded a theatre audience — to offset our sense of malaise, the "national consciousness" was wise indeed to have given it the "slight admission" of which Young complains.

"To forget politics", as Hugo Young (or a sub-editor) recommends, is not merely to withhold our engagement from Messrs Major, Blair and Ashdown, but to abandon the arena in which, seemingly unknown to Young, a great moral and civic battle has been joined in Britain over the direction which the country is taking. There is nothing "barren" or "null" about it; and it is Young who should wake up to it, instead of wasting time on "Ashes to Ashes".

David Selbourne.
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Urbino (PS),
Italy.

### Speak up

LINDA GRANT'S use of the word "standard" is disingenuous (You want for us to stay cool, already?, December 23). In the US, "Standard English" is synonymous with "Wasp English", just as in Britain, "Standard English" is synonymous with "southern middle-class English". As Grant points out, not all dialects are equal. The top two are canonised in written form, which enshrines the idea of correctness, as opposed to Chomsky's idea of everyone's inevitable participation in at least one language and probably dialect.

Why shouldn't it be possible to be literate, as well as articulate, in African-American English (Spanish, an equally ex-imperial language, is taught in different dialects: I'm learning Castilian Spanish: a friend has a degree in Mexican Spanish)? Maybe because African-American English would thus acquire social weight and cred, as well as street cred.

Judith Amanthis.
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### Buses strike

IT IS possible that the destruction of 38 buses in Bolton (Vandals wreck town's bus fleet, December 28) was caused by neither mindless vandalism nor commercial sabotage, but rather by the calculated, if perverse, action of people incensed at being robbed of their mobility by the withdrawal of all bus services for three whole days and two additional evenings of the Christmas holidays.

Allan Horsfall.
Chairman,
The Bus Users' Society,
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### A Country Diary

CANTLEY, NORFOLK: Such is the flatness of the Yare Valley that one can see the smoke stack of Cantley's sugar beet factory from more than 15 kilometres away. Technically it is a grim industrial eyesore within an exclusively agricultural environment. But I have to admit that from a distance on a clear winter's day, when its great plumes of vapour blossom and evaporate into a deep blue sky, the factory and its smoke stack have a vulgar and incongruous but monumental beauty. It's just as well, since they are always part of the scene as one searches for Cantley's other exceptional feature — its flock of bean geese. This species was once widespread in northern England and Scotland, and was described last century as the "common grey goose of the Solway" (near Dumfries). Unfortunately, the Scottish beans have now dwindled to a single small group in the Carron Valley close to Stirling. The only other population, involving 300-400 birds, occurs here at Cantley. Such was the importance attached to their continued presence that the Royal Society For the Protection of Birds bought both Cantley and the adjacent marshes at Buckenham and combined them with their existing holding at Strumpshaw to create one of their largest reserves in England and Wales. It's a vast and inaccessible landscape befitting such nervous birds. Even at distances of many hundreds of metres the geese will respond to the slightest hint of disturbance, raising their heads to look around or anxiously flapping their wings. Not that their wariness is without reason; in Denmark and the Netherlands, where they are much more numerous, bean geese are regularly shot, including the birds that winter at Cantley. And even here, where they enjoy legal protection, they occasionally fall victim to rogue wild fowlers.

*MARK COCKER*

# Social Security throws a long shadow

**Endpiece**

## Roy Hattersley

A COUPLE of weeks before the House of Commons rose for Christmas, a senior member of the Shadow Cabinet told me that he feared for his sanity. He was beginning to hallucinate. At that afternoon's meeting of what is properly called the Parliamentary Committee, he had imagined that one of his colleagues had expressed opinions which, he now realised, no Labour Party member (New or old) could possibly hold.

Since he insisted that the whole incident only happened in his fevered mind, it would have been wrong to name the politician who was at the centre of his waking nightmare. So, when a proper noun was needed to complete the sentence, he referred to "Social Security" — a major spending department as well as shadow minister. "Social Security", he said, "expressed pleasure at the way in which we had all rigorously avoided making specific spending commitments, but went on to say" — and it was at this point that the vein in his temple began to throb — "that we were still making speeches which sounded as if we would like to spend more money if it were available."

Labour, said the shadowy figure hidden behind the Social Security sobriquet, must not only lose the reputation for spending more than the nation can afford. It must slough off the damaging image of a party which believes that investing more in housing, health and education (not to mention social security) is intrinsically a good thing.

My informant — suddenly speaking as if his fantasy had really happened — went on to complain that no one had denounced the multiple idiocy inherent in Social Security's suggestion. We were discussing an unhappy illusion. So I forbore to ask him why he did not lead the condemnation of an idea which we both agreed was as politically dangerous as it was economically illiterate. Instead, I exchanged arguments in support of the view that although (from time to time) reluctance to tax or borrow may require a limit on public expenditure, when increases can be achieved without accompanying detriments, the benefit to the community as a whole is undeniable. Naturally, we both dismissed as jejeune nonsense the notion that reduction in funding always improves the performance of public institutions and the prejudiced theory that democracy and competitive initiative are eroded every time another one per cent of the budget is issued to alleviate poverty, house the homeless or heal the sick.

On reflection, I think we avoided emotive phrases like "heal the sick". The ideological arguments in favour of public expenditure as an instrument of redistribution seemed irrelevant to contemporary politics.

Unfortunately we failed to discuss how hard it is for any government, particularly a new one, to hold down public expenditure. In 1979, Margaret Thatcher came to power with a specific promise to reduce the Government's spending by £8 billion. She approached her task with the enthusiasm of a true believer in all Hayek's absurdities about governments turning freemen into slaves. She also enjoyed the advantage (which Tony Blair will not inherit) of a nation which shared her view that the Government spent too much. In between 1978-9 and 1986-7, public expenditure rose by 16 per cent in real terms. Over the same period, revenue expenditure on health, social services and housing increased by 30 per cent and, perhaps more significantly, during the Conservatives' first five years of government, overall spending climbed from 44 per cent to 47.5 per cent of gross domestic product. It was only when the rate of increase was overtaken by the speed at which the economy expanded that the Government was able to spend a reduced share of the nation's wealth. Growth became the opportunity to demonstrate Tory distaste for funding essential services.

*The danger for Labour is not being denounced for doing too much but being dismissed for doing nothing*

Labour, if it is to remain true to itself, must take the diametrically opposite view. When the economy begins to expand, the Blair government should (and almost certainly will) feel able to build the new hospitals and schools. So the Tory escape route will not be available. As the policy advisers repeat their mantras about the folly of over exciting expectations, they should remember that a promise to hold down public expenditure is unlikely to be kept.

So making such a promise is highly dangerous for a party which hopes to retain office for more than one parliament. Were Labour, in opposition, to argue against the principle of public expenditure and then, in government, actually to increase it, the party would shoot itself in a far more vital organ than its foot.

The self-destruction is wholly unnecessary — at least in terms of political advantage. William Waldegrave's list of Labour's "spending promises" was dismissed by press and public with derision. In part, that was because the Scott report had raised serious doubts about Mr Waldegrave's passion for never saying anything which is not correct in every detail. But it was also because the voters have grown weary of yah-boo campaigning. Another tax-and-spend scare will not run. The danger for Labour is not being denounced for doing too much but being dismissed for doing nothing at all.

It all adds up to the old adage, first expressed by Gladstone when he resigned the Liberal Party leadership over the most trivial public spending disagreement. In politics "things are done best by people who believe in them". I have no doubt that, in power, New Labour will believe in improving the Health Service, building low rent houses and alleviating the poverty of the old and unemployed. It must have enough confidence in its own ideas to ignore the nonsense about the debilitating effects of public expenditure. If the party loses its nerve, the nightmare which was described to me might suddenly become real.

ممكنا من الاصل

صكنا من الاجل

## Tokyo Diary

Andrew Higgins

I NOW have an inkling of how fellow newspaperman Clark Kent must have felt each time he stepped from a telephone booth dressed in blue tights, shiny plastic boots and a red cape. Ridiculous, certainly. But also amazed at the difference a quick change of clothes can make.

My own metamorphosis was considerably more modest but still made a big impression on the fastidiously fashion-conscious staff of Japan Railway's Kyoto-Tokyo express. I went into the train's toilet a fare-dodging scoundrel and came out, not perhaps a super hero, but at least no longer a suspect.

In the space of about 45 seconds, as the Japanese countryside flashed by in a blur of speed, smoke and drizzle, I shed the trappings of a tramp to become a man of means, a force to be reckoned with. To be exact, I put on a jacket and tie.

Until then I had been held under virtual arrest in a small cubicle near the door of the accelerating train, my punishment for not being able to produce a ticket. I had bought one but somehow lost it. Naively judging honesty the best policy, I had surrendered myself to the conductor and tried to explain. He understood just enough of what I was trying to tell him to decide he did not believe any of it. Foreigners who pay fares, it seems, wear suits. Only free-loaders board the bullet train — which charges nearly £100 for a two-hour journey — in jeans and a scruffy T-shirt.

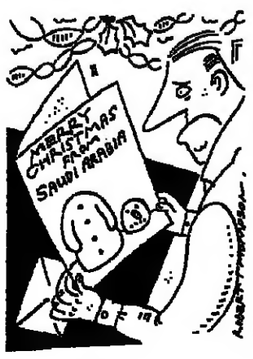
Japan takes appearances very seriously. Far from cloaking all reality in an inscrutable mist, as fancied by romantic foreigners, it is often ponderously scrutable, at least when it comes to outward packaging. Only foreigners talk excitedly of bullet trains. Japanese know the express service by the far more prosaically precise name of Shinkansen, "new trunk line". In Japan, things are called what they are. And people are supposed to look what they call themselves.

When Japanese go hiking in the mountains they dress accordingly — like extras from The Sound Of Music with feathered felt caps and gartered socks. Tokyo intellectuals often look as if they have just come from a Jean-Paul Sartre lecture on the Left Bank. It does not matter that berets and dark glasses went out decades ago in Paris. Clothes, like much else in Japanese life, obey stylised, even fossilised, patterns. If they don't, only confusion and chaos can follow.

Many Japanese found proof of this apparently axiomatic truth in reports from Peru that a band of Marxist guerrillas had penetrated the residency of their ambassador in Lima by dressing up as waiters. Stories of guerrillas with bow ties and bottles of champagne acquired a special potency in Japan. Even revolutionaries are expected to dress the part. The use of disguises suggested a total and terrifying disregard for the norms of civilised behaviour. Reports of elaborate fancy dress later turned out to be untrue. The guerrillas had in fact done the honourable thing and masqueraded as only themselves.

ON THE bullet train to Tokyo, I had dressed like a slob and was therefore assumed to have behaved like one. For the conductor, it was an open-and-shut case. From his briefcase, he fished out a Japan Railways handbook and pointed in triumph at a bi-lingual dialogue prepared for such a clear-cut episode. It went something like this: Passenger: "I have lost my ticket." Conductor: "Hard luck." Passenger: "What should I do." Conductor: "You must buy another one." Passenger: "Okay."

It was at this point that I disappeared into the toilet clutching a small ruck-sack containing a change of clothes. And a change of identity. I locked the door and put on a new shirt, a tie and a blazer. It was a cheap ploy. But it worked. The conductor decided I was telling the truth. He apologised for the inconvenience, led me to an empty seat and turned to another page in his handbook: "I hope you enjoy your journey. If we can help you in any way please let me know."




# Save us from the saviours of England

## Commentary

## William Wallace

THE passionate anti-Europeans who are determined to save Britain from continental domination are an extraordinary crew. There are nasty undertones of xenophobia, even echoes of fascism, beneath the coalition of malcontents who claim to be dedicated to the salvation of England. But there is also much which is absurd. The peculiar hold they have now established over the British political debate, far stronger now than when Mrs Thatcher was Prime Minister, stems from the absence of any coherent alternative definition of British national interest and identity from responsible leaders, not only within John Major's Government but also on the Labour front bench.

The faith which these anti-modernists proclaim is of old England, stocked with free men who have never bent to a foreign yoke; still governed by a Parliament which has taken root over the last 1,000 years in English soil. It's a mixture of Shakespeare, Charles Kingsley and Winston Churchill's History Of The English-speaking Peoples, with touches of the Eagle and the Boy's Own Paper thrown in. The Daily Mail's post-Dublin European Council headline, "Has 1,100 years of our history come to this?", brought out all the old themes: King Alfred the Great whose silver penny was "the first real British coin", the image of an unbroken tradition stretching from the ninth century to the present day, and the ever-present threat of continental invasion (this time in a form of a German-dominated single currency) to British liberties.

The Eurosceptic faith imposes the myth of Anglo-Saxon England on the rest of Britain, with the conquests of Wales and Ireland and the later union with Scotland swept out of the story. And it bends English history to fit the model which Protestant, Whig, Unionist historians successfully created 100-150 years ago, to inspire young men in the new public schools with a sense of patriotic duty and to educate the industrial working class to see themselves as British. There's no mention here of the Hapsburg pieces of eight which circulated in Elizabethan England, or of the role of the Rothschilds and other Jewish and German families in building Britain's financial strength through intimate dealings across European currencies in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Nor does the myth fit the motley collection of romantics who propound it. For a start, an astonishingly large number are not really English, in their own exclusive terms. The UK Independence Party's candidate in the Barnsley byelection was Nikolai Tolstoy — a name redolent of European high culture rather than of Saxons rooted in England since before the Norman conquest. Sir James Goldsmith, who stems from a great European financial family, made his money largely in New York, and invests it from Mexico to France.

If you were looking for a quintessentially English politician, all beer-belly and beef — the sort of MP Henry Fielding depicted, Lewis Namier admired, and Gillray lampooned — then Ken Clarke is the man. John Redwood and Michael Portillo, the heroes of the Right, come closer to Charles Kingsley's description (in Westward Ho!) of the casuistic Jesuits from France and Spain who slipped in and out of England plotting against Good Queen Bess. There are characters in Trollope who resemble Michael Howard; but they are not among Trollope's Englishmen, nor his heroes. Then there are the Scots who have converted to faith in the superiority of England: Norman Lamont, Teddy Taylor, Michael Forsyth, defenders of the British Union against the European Union. They are joined by Ulster Unionists like David Trimble, who (the Financial Times reported on December 23) "is closely connected to a circle that sees Brussels and Dublin as two forces both contributing to the undermining of the UK". Rupert Murdoch had told the Financial Times a few days earlier that he is opposed to EMU because he "believes there will be an inevitable loss of economic sovereignty if Britain chooses to join".

The English nationalist camp have sat by without protest as Britain's economic assets have been sold off to foreign buyers over the past 20 years, largely to finance cuts in income tax. The last British-owned car company was sold to the Germans Eurosceptics so love to hate. The Americans have taken over the electricity network which English municipal enterprise built, while several of our water and our rail companies have gone to the French. Japanese, Korean and Taiwanese investments have given Britain a successful electronics sector, with financial inducements from public funds to create British subsidiaries — but that's hardly the stuff out of which pride in the strength of an independent British economy can be rebuilt.

ENGLISH nationalism over the past 500 years has been intrinsically anti-Catholic. Brussels and Dublin, for Ulster Unionists, are linked by the Church of Rome and the Treaty of Rome; Sir James Goldsmith represents for them a welcome anti-Catholic ally. Yet many of the journalists who campaign for a free Britain in newspapers with proprietors who live in New York, Toronto or Paris are themselves Roman Catholics by upbringing or conversion. Paul Johnson is as one with Ian Paisley in his hatred of the European project, though the target of his religious invective is the Church of England — rather than of Rome. Charles Moore combines the political attitudes of an 18th-century Protestant Englishman with the religious posture of pre-Enlightenment Catholicism.

Public opinion is shaped by political debate and political leadership, reflected through the media. Richard Littlejohn in the Daily Mail referred to the French and Germans — Britain's allies within Nato — as "our natural enemies". Helmut Kohl is regularly referred to in the same paragraph as Hitler, Chirac as Napoleon.

It will take some time for any new government to get across a more rational understanding of British interests. But time is the one thing a new government will not have on European policy — which is the heart of British foreign policy. Labour's preference for temporising in its turn with the Eurosceptic press, concealing from the public the hard choices to be made while focusing on quiet consultation with Continental socialist parties, risks leaving it to face the Inter-Governmental Conference with an unprepared electorate and an actively sceptical press.

Now is not the time to give more ground to the Europhobes. We should be concentrating our efforts on exposing the real danger to Britain's long-term interests of being driven by the current hysteria into dropping out of active engagement in European international politics.

Lord Wallace of Saltaire is a Liberal Democrat working peer and author of Opening The Door: The Enlargement Of Nato And The EU (Centre for European Reform)

# Tabloids again cast the first stone

Paul Foot

THE Tasteful Headline Of The Year Award must surely go to the Daily Mail for its Boxing Day front page entitled SHAME OF NURSE IN SAUDI MURDER. The Mail story, which, as usual, was reiterated faithfully in the Mail's chief rival, the Express, revealed that Lucille McLachlan, a nurse charged with murdering a colleague in Saudi Arabia, was sacked from a Scottish hospital for allegedly using stolen credit cards. If you felt a pang of sympathy for a woman detained in a Saudi prison under a legal system run by a greedy and cruel dictatorship, you can now rest easy. Anyone sacked for allegedly stealing credit cards plainly deserves whatever she gets — in this case (and here the Mail and Express started to salivate) a public and gruesome beheading by sword of the type which weekly amuses royalist crowds in Riyadh and Jeddah.

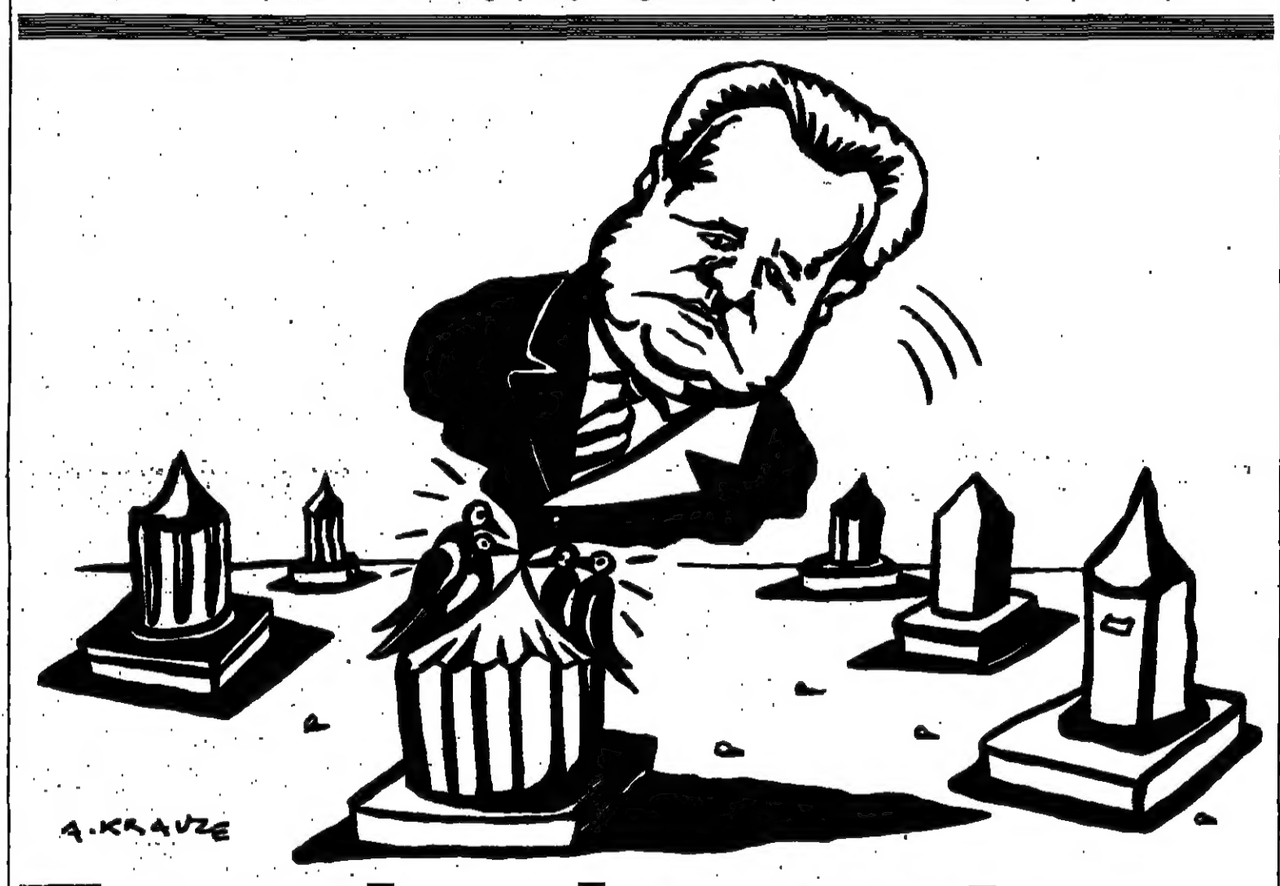
The reports took me back to two previous stories with a similar thrust. The first, seven years ago, was the triumphant revelation in the same sort of newspapers that Observer reporter Farzad Bazoft, who was awaiting the death sentence on spying charges trumped up by another dictatorship, that of Saddam Hussein in Iraq, had long ago robbed a building society. The conclusion was plain. Why should anyone weep for such a man, let alone campaign for him?

The second was the 1979 death of another nurse in Saudi Arabia — Helen Smith. People usually remember that Helen Smith "fell off a balcony while making love". Both "facts", which originated in the Foreign Office, are wrong. The full inquest, which was finally heard in Leeds in 1983 thanks to the persistance of the nurse's father, Ron Smith, revealed: a) the nurse's injuries were wholly inconsistent with a fall from the balcony; b) she had been killed by a savage blow to the side of the head; c) she had been raped; and d) the injuries caused by the rape had originally been concealed by order of Her Majesty's Coroner, a former Mayor of Ripon. Common to all three cases was an instinctive and sustained effort by the British government and its press to cover up for the dictators. Why? Because they buy so many British arms.

The rhetoric of British democracy — freedom from arbitrary arrest, independence of the judiciary etc — has to be set on one side because of the increasing dependence of that democracy on arms sales to regimes that suppress democracy in all its forms. Further proof of this process comes from the recent National Audit Office report on aid to Indonesia, which was provoked by Ann Clwyd, Labour MP for Cynon Valley. In 1983, the servant of another dictatorship, the Indonesian Chief of Police, came to Britain. After discussions with him, some brilliant brains in the Overseas Development Administration conceived the notion that helping the Indonesian police could be classified as "aid". The Foreign Office leapt for joy and told the ODA to hurry up with this "aid" project because, as the NAO report has it, "delays would hardly have a favourable impact on the Chief of Police who had moved on to become a presidential adviser and was likely to play a crucial role in decisions on future military procurement for the Indonesian armed forces". Entranced by those magic words "military procurement" (making profits from the merchandise of death), government "aid" to the poor was diverted into training police to beat up the poor.

President Suharto of Indonesia, by the way, believes in helping the poor as well as beating them up. So he's instructed all rich people and companies to pay 2 per cent of their income to the Autonomy Prosperity Foundation, which will help the poor. Proof positive that all the money will go directly to the poor are the names of the head of the Foundation and its most well-known board member: President Suharto and his son Bambang.

GOVERNMENT policy on these matters was admirably summed up in a recent letter from Foreign Office minister David Davis to a supporter of Amnesty International in Sussex. She wrote to her MP complaining about human rights abuses in Turkey. After acknowledging "routine and systematic torture" by the Turkish authorities, Davis wrote: "We believe the most effective way of encouraging progress is to promote a closer association between Turkey and European institutions". He cited "the EU/Turkey Customs Union" as an "important part of that process". This puzzled the Amnesty supporter, who had also complained about Turkish torture to her MEP, James Provan. Mr Provan wrote: "We believe that the abuse of human rights in Turkey is in direct contravention of the Customs agreement." So there we have it plain. The government's policy for reducing torture and human rights abuse by other regimes is to snuggle up to the regimes under treaties and customs unions which the regimes, by continuing torture and human rights abuse, can then directly contravene.




# Two tired tyrants

As popular opposition pecks away in Serbia and Croatia, **Ian Traynor** predicts that 1997 could see the downfall of Presidents Milosevic and Tudjman

BOSNIA's Alija Izetbegovic once memorably likened having to choose between Europe's tinpot twins, Presidents Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia and Franjo Tudjman of Croatia, to that between leukaemia and a brain tumour.

The new-year cheer, however tasteless it may sound, is that the diseased growths may prove terminal in 1997, that the two despots who plotted and battled to carve up former Yugoslavia between them are toppled by a homegrown surge of people's power a belated seven years after the peoples of eastern Europe consigned the *anciens régimes* to the historical rubbish dump.

The Western powers, through a misdirected policy of Realpolitik driven by fear of what Milosevic's and Tudjman's fall would mean for Bosnia, Serbia, and Croatia, may yet help the bad guys to save face and shore themselves up in power. It is no accident that early in the six weeks of public protest in Belgrade, the demonstrators made a beeline for the American Embassy and burnt the Stars and Stripes. They correctly identified the US, through its tacit, if equivocal, support of Milosevic, as part of the enemy of Serbian democracy.

Not for the first time in the blood-soaked five-year tragedy of Yugoslavia's dismemberment, the two prime villains have good reason to seek common cause: survival, control, and power.

The two are very different. Milosevic, at 55, is 20 years Tudjman's junior. The chameleon strongman is a brooding depressive, chilling and charming, who keeps his own counsel and changes his ideologies — communism, free markets, nationalism, back to communism — as often as he changes his double-breasted suits. Milosevic believes in nothing but his own power.

On past performance, there is nothing he won't do to keep it. He unleashed the fanatics he groomed, funded, and armed first on Croatia then Bosnia in a failed campaign of Serbian aggrandisement. Before that he put his tanks and paramilitaries in the southern province of Kosovo to establish a police state over the majority Albanians. And before the wars of the Yugoslav succession, he turned the tanks on his own people, in Belgrade in March 1991, to quell the kind of protests now gripping the Serbian capital.

Tudjman, by contrast, is a true believer, a nationalist zealot, obsessed with history, revisionism, and symbolism, changing the language, renaming streets, squares, currencies and football teams, speaking and writing in impenetrable archaisms, commissioning cod-medieval frockcoats and ceremonies. But despite their differences, the parallels between them are striking. Both are ruthless and remorseless. Both despise Bosnia's Muslims. Both sponsored their nationalist proxies in Bosnia to carve that benighted country up after a pre-war plot to partition it. That campaign led directly to the war crimes of Ahmici in the spring of 1993 when Croats massacred scores of Muslim men, women, and children; and Srebrenica in the summer of 1995 when Serbs massacred thousands of Muslim men. Milosevic and Tudjman have a lot to answer for.

The parallels in both men's current survival crises are also striking. The Serbian challenge centres on free elections, free media, and control of the capital city. The challenge to Tudjman focuses on exactly the same issues.

Milosevic annulled the municipal elections because he lost Belgrade in the full knowledge that opposition control and the accompanying power to establish free media would cost him dearly.

DITTO in Zagreb. For more than a year, Tudjman has vetoed several opposition candidates for mayor of the Croatian capital after the Tudjman party lost the Zagreb elections. By decree, he appointed one of his party cronies. She then had to stand down because of corruption charges.

As Milosevic fiddled the ballot boxes, Tudjman, fearing defeat at the ballot, moved the electoral goalposts, extending the franchise to his allied nationalist Croats in Bosnia. As Milosevic's socialists lost all the key Serbian cities, however, Tudjman, too, was defeated in all the key urban centres. And just as Milosevic's kneejerk reaction when confronted with the current troubles was to close down Belgrade's independent B-92 radio, wipe news of the protests off the nation's TV screens, and arrest or intimidate nuisance journalists, so Tudjman's problems last month were triggered by the closure of Zagreb's independent Radio 101. Some 100,000 instantly took to Zagreb's main square in protest.

George Soros, the Hungarian-American philanthropist billionaire, has done more to promote free media in former Yugoslavia and eastern Europe than all Western governments combined, while the roles of the controlled media in Serbia and Croatia in fomenting the Yugoslav bloodbath cannot be exaggerated. Two weeks ago, Tudjman's police detained two local Soros employees in Croatia, stole 65,000 dollars from them and grilled them for 24 hours. The regime is now threatening to prosecute staff at Soros's Open Society Foundation on trumped-up tax-evasion charges.

The problem for both men, of course, as for dictators everywhere, is they cannot tolerate what they can't control, and they can't control Soros. Increasingly, both men are making mistakes, miscalculating, and finding themselves outwitted by the people they have duped disastrously for so long.

Within hours of the recent media crackdowns in both Zagreb and Belgrade, the bright young irreverent things in both capitals had organised Internet petitions and computer-generated news services to beat the censors.

Both regimes are now cranking out propaganda about Western plots to destroy Serbia or Croatia, branding opposition as treason. Such potent nonsense has worked to a degree for years. But now it is tired, generating only sniggers of contempt or howls of outrage in Belgrade and Zagreb, Nis and Rijeka, Kragujevac and Split.

Tudjman's election fiddles last year backfired, his media crackdown prompted the biggest protest of his six-year rule.

IN Milosevic's Serbia, elections generally do not happen unless producing a preconceived result: in that context, November 17 was a blunder for the master tactician. As was his move to try to defuse the crisis by inviting in Felipe Gonzalez and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe to review the evidence. He has been extremely adept in the past at manipulating Western divisions and hesitation to his advantage. Not this time.

Tudjman's propaganda machine at the moment actually supports Milosevic, blaming the Belgrade protests on Western scheming to topple the Serbian regime and implying that Zagreb will be next on the West's hit-list. Unfortunately, that is not true, except in one respect. Tudjman knows that Milosevic's fall would bring him that much closer to being deposed. And vice-versa.

Despite Tudjman's claims, Western policy on both villains is essentially "better the devil you know..." for fear of the instability that may follow their departure.

The throngs in Belgrade, and in Zagreb last month, know better: that it is these two men, Milosevic above all, who foment and thrive on instability, and that a proper Balkan peace will remain elusive for as long as they remain in power.

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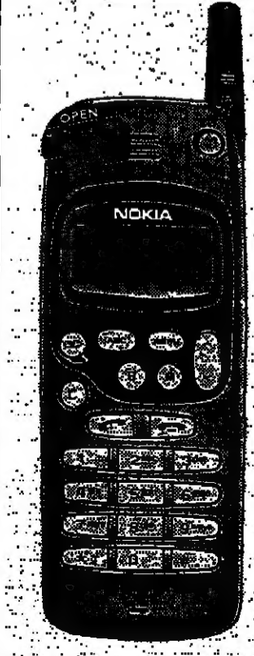


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W G G Duncan-Smith

# Spitfire into battle

GROUP CAPTAIN W G G Duncan-Smith, who has died aged 82, was an outstanding pilot and an unforgettable character of the second world war. He could fly Spitfires by the seat of his pants, he could lead men — commanding fliers from Australia, New Zealand, Canada and South Africa — he was admired by other pilots and by ground crew alike; and he ended the war with 19 official "kills" in combat against the Luftwaffe.

Duncan-Smith served in the Royal Air Force from 1939 to 1959. He flew Spitfires from his arrival in 611 squadron in October 1940 until, during the Malayan emergency in the early 1950s, he was the very last operational RAF pilot of the fighter.

The son of an Indian army officer, Duncan-Smith was born in Madras, and educated in Scotland. He worked as a tea-planter in India from 1933-36, but having qualified as a mechanical engineer took a job with a motor firm in Reading, joining the RAF Volunteer Reserve just before the outbreak of war.

With the Lincolnshire-based 611 squadron he flew in sweeps and provided bomber escorts over France in the spring of 1941. By August of that year he had shot down four Me109 fighters and joined 603 squadron as flight commander. After a bout of pneumonia, he took command of 64 squadron in the spring of 1942. That August came the disastrous combined operations raid on Dieppe. Within four days, Duncan-Smith shot down two German bombers, was himself shot down and rescued by the navy, hospitalised — he discharged himself 24 hours later — and, back with the squadron, he was promoted to wing leader.

The questions raised by the Dieppe raid led the RAF to reassess its tactics and a fighter leaders school was set up with advice from Duncan-Smith. He also commanded the school for a period.

At the end of 1942 Duncan-Smith was transferred to the Mediterranean, to Malta, from where he covered the invasion of Sicily in July 1943. Shortly afterwards he was appointed Wing Commander Flying of 244 (Mobile) Wing, initially in north Africa, just as the Axis forces were facing defeat there. He covered the crossings to Italy by the 8th Army, and he spent long hours in a dinghy in the Straits of Messina after his Spitfire suffered a fuel failure. He was saved, under heavy German fire, by an RAF Walrus air-sea rescue amphibious aircraft.

In late 1943, he joined 324 Mobile Wing as Group Captain, after it had landed at Salerno and moved to Naples. It was there that I met him, having been with 324 as operations officer since north Africa. After Naples, we could tell from our own experience the importance of air power. The Spitfires of his new command provided air cover over the Volturno and beyond to Monte Cassino. These mobile wings developed their own camaraderie and expertise. After the desert and north Africa we were truly mobile. We did not need any paper instructions on how to proceed or where to go. Just a map reference could be enough. "Hard-lying rations" — wooden boxes of tea, dried milk and chocolate — would suffice and everybody knew their job; there were no bullish rules and regulations.

After Rome, the wing moved north with the 5th Army to Civitavecchia and Tarquinia. Via Corsica, we crossed by landing craft into Provence in the south of France. Duncan-Smith dubbed the subsequent actions in France "the champagne campaign".

We were supporting the American 6th Army and a mix of British and American airborne troops, and moved quickly up the Rhone Valley against enemy troops (Baltic nationals, and other eastern Europeans, fighting for Germany). We were given the job by the Americans of clearing the large area east and northeast of the Rhone, and we linked up with the maquis resistance fighters.

We eventually took and made our own the well-bombed airfield at Lyon. When General de Gaulle touched down from north Africa in a Hudson he took not the slightest notice of Duncan-Smith or his operations officer. That was our first lesson in postwar international politics.

Near the airfield, we had had our first sighting of war crimes; children had been shot there a day or two before because they had cheered the aircraft bombing the field; workmen had also summarily dealt with there for similar signs of support for the Allies.

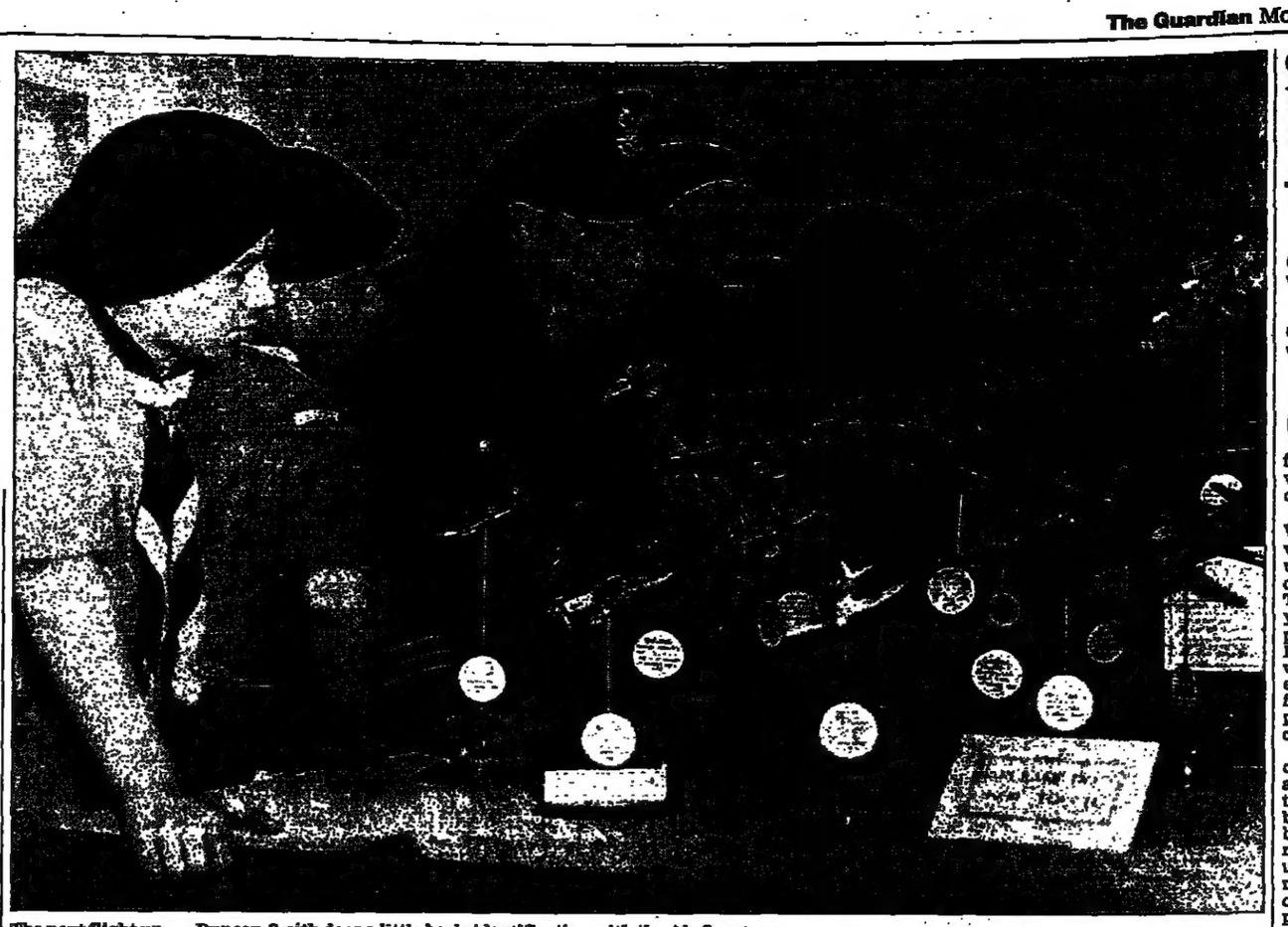
Duncan-Smith governed us with a light rein and he allowed us occasionally to amuse ourselves with the odd drink and a party — particularly in Provence.

By the mid-1950s, Duncan-Smith's activities in the Malayan insurgency had added a third DFC to the two he won during the second world war. He also spent 1954 on exchange with the United States Air Force, with whom he flew subsonic F86 Sabre jet fighters. He retired from the RAF in 1959, and from then until the early 1970s he worked for Triplex, creating and running their Aviation Division.

Duncan-Smith's memoir *Spitfire Into Battle* was published in 1981. He was a man of good judgment, and nothing showed that more than the lady he married, Pamela Summers, in 1946. They brought up five children, two girls and three boys, one of whom is for the Conservative MP for Chingford.

**Lord Merlyn-Rees**

Group Captain W G G Duncan-Smith, fighter pilot, born May 28, 1914; died December 11, 1996



The next flight up . . . Duncan-Smith does a little basic identification with the Air Scouts

Charles Molnar

# First of the smaller screens

CHARLES Molnar, who has died aged 61, helped build what could be fairly considered to be the world's very first personal computer.

In 1962, Wesley A Clark and William N Paplan led the development of a new single-user computer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Molnar, a young PhD student, was responsible for the engineering. In those days, computers were so physically large and expensive that the habit was for them to be used by many people at once, a process they called time-sharing.

The LINC — a play on Laboratory Instrument Computer and MIT's Lincoln Laboratory, where the group was based — was also unusual in being designed to support medical research by linking up with laboratory equipment. In this way, it followed on from Clark's Average Response Computer, ARC-1, which was developed to record the brain's responses to sensory stimuli.

Molnar gained his doctorate at MIT in 1965 with a thesis on the mechanics of the inner ear and how it translates (or transduces) sounds into brain signals. Then he joined the rest of the core LINC team in defecting to the Institute for Biomedical Computing at Washington University, St Louis, where he worked until 1985.

As well as being a neuroscientist, Molnar was also a leading expert on asynchronous computer systems — meaning ultrafast machines which do not lock all their operations to a rigid electronic clock. Last year, he joined technical workstation manufacturer Sun Microsystems to continue his research in this field, which has the potential to revolutionise computing.

LINC was also revolutionary: it certainly revolutionised the practice of neurophysiology. It also helped to launch the minicomputer into an age which already had miniskirts and Mini cars. The design goals specified were that it should not cost more than $25,000 and that it should not be too high to see over (that at a time when computers often had the dimensions and styling of metal wardrobes). That idea "at first seems only whimsical," according to LINC expert Samuel Rosenfeld, but, in fact, it "indicated Clark's belief that a machine should not intimidate its owner".

LINC was actually assembled mainly out of modules from what was then a small local manufacturer, Digital Equipment Corporation. Later DEC capitalised on this connection by exploiting the design in its PDP-8 and PDP-12 minicomputers. The PDP-8 was the first commercially-successful mini and established an industry trend towards smaller computers.

In all about 60 LINCs were built, and their reliability became legendary. One that went into service in the auditory physiology lab at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary on May 5, 1964, lasted 28 years before "the beeps, gongs and flashing lights were switched off for the final time on what is believed to have been the last LINC in regular use".

The machine was then presented with all "the traditional retirement honours", including its own gold watch, and despatched to the MIT Museum.

Molnar leaves a wife, Donna, and two sons, Steven and Christopher.

**Jack Schofield**

Dr Charles Edwin Molnar, computer pioneer, born 1935; died December 13, 1996

Appreciation: **Irving Caesar**

# Let's get this show off the road . . .

THERE is a thesis waiting to be written on the theme in American song of a country cottage as a retreat from the metropolis. *Tea For Two* was not the first, nor perhaps the best, but it was unforgettable, the work of Irving Caesar (*obituary December 19*). It was written on the hoof during the pre-Broadway tour of *No, No, Nanette*. The song's co-author, Vincent Youmans, died, a burnt-out case, over half a century ago. Caesar, however, visited his Manhattan office every day into his late nineties, even though that song — and the earlier *Swanee* — meant he need never have worked again.

He had met his collaborator on *Swanee*, George Gershwin, in a Fifth Avenue club, and the two novices decided to work together. They were a study in contrasts, Gershwin svelte and elegant, and his collaborator short and stocky with thick spectacles, a porkpie hat, invariably chomping on a cigar.

Henry Ford's phrase about the ending of the first world war, *When The Armies Disband*, provided them with their first — and unpublished — title. But *You-oo, Just You* and *There's More To The Kiss Than the X-X-X* were taken up and brought them attention.

One evening, in a cheap restaurant, Caesar suggested that they try to emulate *Hindustan*, a successful one-step novelty number. They boarded a bus in Times Square and went uptown to the Gershwin home on Riverside Drive, by which time the lyrics had been worked out; it took another 15 minutes at the piano, while Gershwin's father noisily played cards in the next room, and *Swanee* was ready. It was sufficently beguiling for Gershwin Snr. to come in and play along on comb and paper.

But before Al Jolson encountered *Swanee* in 1921 other songs by the duo were incorporated in other shows. There was *I Was So Young (You Were So Beautiful)*, a version of which is on Bobby Short's *K-r-a-z-y for Gershwin*. After Jolson took *Swanee* for his show *Sinbad*, selling millions of copies, doors opened for Caesar. If the Gershwin-Caesar collaboration was not sustained, it did yield a too-little-known gem in *Nashville Nightingale* from the forgotten *Nifties of 1923*.

Caesar by then had met composer Vincent Youmans, slogging away for a seemingly indifferent music publisher. After a brief collaboration, they came together at the end of 1925 on *Tea For Two* for the musical *No, No, Nanette*. They were drafted in while the musical was on the road to boost its quota of songs after it all but died in Detroit. Along with *I Want to Be Happy*, *Tea For Two* made *No, No Nanette*. It was endorsed by the then Prince of Wales, who insisted that the song be played again when he saw the show. As Alan Jay Lerner later wrote: "Youman's melody was a stroke of pure genius. No one before had ever written dotted quarter-eighth note, dotted quarter-eighth note from beginning to end . . . no one has written one since, although I know of several composers who have tried. There is no question that it was an extraordinary melodic invention . . . the classic soft-shoe rhythm." (It is also impossible for anybody to give a tea-time order to a waiter without the song coming to mind, no mean achievement for a few minutes' work in 1925.)

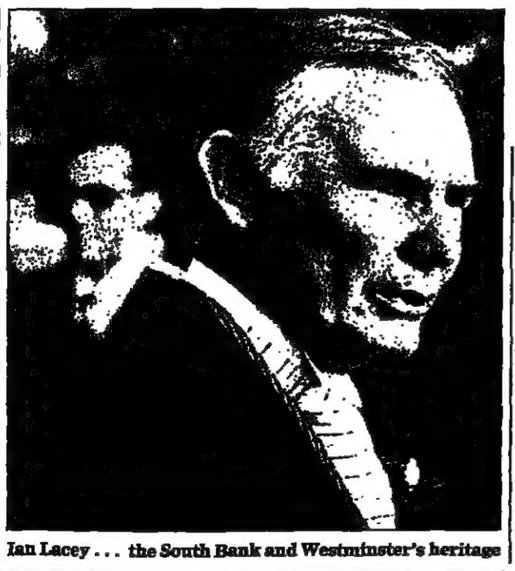
It should not be forgotten that Caesar had a penchant for practical jokes. Pianist and sometime collaborator, Oscar Levant, once recalled Caesar telling a victim that a married woman was readily available when her husband was out of town. He claimed that the conquest would be a mere matter of going up to her darkly-lit apartment with a strawberry shortcake, for which she had a great taste, knocking on her door and declaring "Oh Mae!"

Those who were in the know on the gag would then lie in wait as the victim arrived with cake aloft. They then watched while the door was opened by the apparent husband (also in on the joke), who shouted: "So *you're* the fellow who's been playing around with my wife!" As the victim fled with insults following him, the observers in the dark dropped lightbulbs which rang with a bullet-like noise.

**Christopher Hawtree**

## Birthdays

**Gordon Banks**, former footballer, 59; **Sarah Brown**, senior civil servant, 53; **Vladimir Bukovsky**, dissident, scientist, writer, 54; **Prof Sir Roy Calne**, surgeon and immunologist, 66; **Geraint Davies**, Controller, BBC Wales, 53; **Dame Elmira Gordon**, governor-general of Belize, 66; **Sir John Houghton**, chairman, Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, 65; **Prof Dame Rosalinde Hurley**, microbiologist, 67; **Mark Kaplan**, violinist, 43; **Timothy Mo**, writer, 46; **the Rt Rev Peter Nott**, Bishop of Norwich, 63; **Mary Rayner**, writer, illustrator, 63; **Rocky Ryan**, boxer, 59; **Nick Skelton**, showjumper, 39; **Patti Smith**, singer, songwriter, 50; **Stan Tracey**, jazz pianist, composer, 70; **Tracy Ullman**, comedienne, 37; **Sir David Willcocks**, choral conductor, 77; **Clifford Williams**, associate director, Royal Shakespeare Company, 70.



Ian Lacey . . . the South Bank and Westminster's heritage

Ian Lacey

# Belief in building a better city

IN a career of four decades, Ian Lacey, who has died aged 70, was a distinguished city planner, fascinated by what planning and urban design could do for the quality of the built environment. Although he was a very good architect, he concentrated his energies on urban development rather than on the design of individual buildings.

Born in the Wirral, he was a student at Liverpool University School of Architecture. He won the Reilly medal for his thesis, and the Rome scholarship in architecture, which enabled him to spend two years based in Rome studying medieval town centres and travelling in Greece and Turkey. He also worked for the architectural firm of Belgioso Peressutti and Rogers in Milan.

Back in London, he joined the office of Ralph Tubbs (*obituary November 30*), the designer of the Festival of Britain's Dome of Discovery, where he worked on various projects including buildings at Basildon and Hemel Hempstead new towns. His next move was to the London County Council, where most forward-looking architects of his age spent time, joining Graeme Shankland's new towns team and working on plans for expanding the town of Hook in Hampshire. The publication of *The Hook Report* was a seminal event in recent town planning, but the proposals were defeated by a local group of ex-army officers who organised themselves with military precision. After a decade as Southwark's borough planner, he was appointed Westminster City planning officer, and was thus responsible for the central part of one of the world's great cities. A key task was the creation conservation policies for Westminster's unique heritage and he was behind the 1984 book, *The Living Heritage of Westminster*. His policy was to pursue a balance between preserving the best and looking out for good new design.

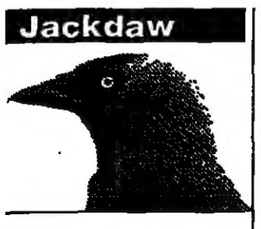
In 1985, he joined the Department of the Environment's planning inspectorate. He was an active member of London's South Bank Group, which sought to save its Festival vintage concert halls and the Hayward Gallery from demolition and the National Theatre from inappropriate architectural changes. He was also a member of the faculty of Architecture of the British school at Rome.

Ian Lacey was a gifted and inspiring public servant. Outside the office, he was a naturalist, an excellent water-colourist, a music lover and he had a wonderful sense of humour. He leaves his wife Julie and three daughters. He was also an avid Guardian reader for well over half a century — and would have found it rather ironic that he died while reading that paper.

**Alan Turner**

Gerald Ian Lacey, architect and town planner, July 21, 1929; died December 12, 1996

## Jackdaw



### Last call

PERMANENT Brain Damage (Risk it! Risk It!).

Too much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind.

Licking Lightbulbs.

Two Very Dangerous People Living in One Small Space Together.

Two Vagina Monologues.

The male Intellect an Oxymoron.

Dueling Bankheads Family Jamboree.

Dr Seuss's Green Eggs and Ham and Gertrude.

McFuzz: A New Musical.

Cast on a Hot Tin Roof — a Dysfunctional Dixie Christmas.

Wasp in a Lampshade.

Rat Dog and Princess Toad meet the Big Bad Wolf.

Who Shot Doc at the Sock Hop.

Canus Loonis Balloonis.

More Fun Than Bowling.

The Stage *lists some of the more bizarrely named plays that you missed seeing in 1996.*

### Sky Lord

MANY Christians recognise UFOs and extraterrestrials as being under the authority of the Prince of the Powers of the Air, Prince of the Aerial Host, Lord of those that fly — Satan. Jesus warned that one of the signs of the end times was that it would be "just as it was in the times of Noah". In Genesis we see the account of non-human intelligent beings "breeding" with humans, creating hybrids and contributing to the proliferation of evil against God. The messages we see from contact with extraterrestrials and other advanced beings contain claims that they are the ones who created us, through genetic manipulation. That one characteristic of "alien" encounters alone should make it obvious that extraterrestrials and the rebel Sons of God of Genesis are one and the same! When some well-meaning Christian warns against the deceptive nature of so-called "aliens" and what they reveal about themselves, the response is usually similar to [this]:

"Your connection between the modern UFO phenomenon and the Bible is very insightful. I would strongly disagree, however, with your conclusion that these superhuman beings are demons. The evidence (from the Bible itself, in fact) suggests that the UFO phenomenon is by no means a method by which Lucifer is attempting to deceive us but instead is the method by which a society of ultra-advanced extraterrestrials (the gods, from Hebrew *Elohim*) have been interacting with humanity ever since creating us through genetic engineering. Aliens and angels are one and the same!"

*A taste of some of the weird thinking behind "The First Conspiracy" which details a conspiracy dating from the dawn of time and connecting Satan, UFOs, God's hand in the Sphinx and the Cydonia Face, rogue angels and alien geneticists — the usual suspects. Found at the aptly named Paranoid Conspiracy Cosmic Rapture 2000 Page at www.MT.net/~watcher/*

### Divorce card

DIVORCE is no longer something to keep quiet about — or so it appears from the burgeoning industry dedicated to cheering up divorcees and celebrating the signing of decree absolutes. Along with birthday, Christmas and anniversary cards, you can send a divorce card. Clinton cards, the first to launch divorce cards in the UK, now have a range of four. "I have mixed feelings about your divorce; I'm glad if you're glad; I'm sad if you're sad," reads one. Another approach is "Getting rid of him? Make it a clean break; or at least a compound fracture."

For those rejoicing in their new-found freedom, divorce parties are increasingly in vogue. Paul Van der Meulen of Banana Split has been organising divorce bashes for a number of years. "We feature cakes cut in half and beds cut in half," he says. "They're generally good-natured affairs, but once we burnt an effigy of the ex-wife in her wedding dress."

A further option for those wishing to wipe out the memory of their ex is to have them neatly erased from wedding photos. John Henshall, a specialist in the digital manipulation of photographs, is sometimes asked to replace one bridegroom with another. "If someone's done the dirty on you, what is more subtle and effective than removing them from the picture? It ends to run the message home," he says. He is also in the business of reconciliation — putting back, after a row, the two torn halves of a photograph, and hiding the join.

US publishers D and D Communications have cashed in on the new marketability of divorce by launching a quarterly magazine on the subject. Chicago's Divorce Magazine covers stress, dividing the household contents, and how to protect the kids — as well as tips on finding someone new.

Hot Air, *Virgin Atlantic's in-flight magazine describes those cashing in on the celebrations of those crashing apart.*

### Handy Hints

WHILE traditional golf hazards are practically eliminated from Tundra Golf (roughs are snow-covered, water and sand frozen), the game does include some unique hazards not found during summer play. Keep the guidelines on the following pages in mind if you encounter those particular obstacles.

**Sledders in the Fairway:** If a player's ball is interfered with by the head or body of a sledder, the player is allowed a drop where the ball would have landed or a free shot from the ball's original position.

**Cross-country Skiers/Tracks:** Should a skier interfere with a player's backswing, the player is allowed to hit again without penalty. Cross-country ski and snowmobile tracks may be treated as you treat cart paths during the summer-free swing and stance relief.

**Freezing on the Green:** This hazard is common among players who take too much time lining up their putts and is another good reason to avoid slow play, and can sometimes result in a penalty.

**Snowmobiles:** While their tracks provide a great lie, snowmobiles themselves pose a great danger, as many drivers may not even see you as they scout the horizon for cross-country skiers to run over.

**Irate Greenskeepers:** Unenlightened greenskeepers may not recognize the assets of Tundra Golf, under the misconception that play during winter months may damage a course. The truth is, the frozen ground actually protects turf from divotting. However, should an angry grounds-person disrupt your round, play may be continued at a later date from the last hole finished with no penalty to any players.

*From the Official Web Site of the Tundra Golf Association for those who simply can't keep away even during the kind of weather that we've experienced this Christmas. Found at www.octane.com/tundragolf.html*

They said it . . . Hot Air

*Jackdaw wants jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.*

**Emily Sheffield**

هكذا من الاصل

صكذا من الاصل

**ELECTION BATTLEGROUND/Poor are victims of worldwide compassion fatigue**

# Nobody is coming to the aid of this party

Sarah Ryle

NOBODY could be blamed for having missed the first 354 days, but spare a thought at this time of Auld Lang Syne for the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty, as it limps off and quietly dies.

If Charles Dickens's Ghost of Christmas Past stalked the earth now, it might take the form of celebrity saint Sir Bob Geldof.

Rattling his collecting tin — no need for a makeover to achieve that lived-in-the-grave look — he would play Live Aid's Yuletide 1984 anthem, Do They Know It's Christmas? and point to a 1985 calendar.

That record and the star-studded transatlantic Live Aid gig which followed it were supposed to be the awakening of the world's consciousness and conscience on the starvation-level poverty that was never going to be allowed to happen again.

But a decade and a year of international eradication later, one person in five on the planet will live and die hungry in 1997.

So it is worth asking why overseas aid is being cut in this country when the UK government boasts of healthy economic growth driven by a spending fest on the high street and manifesting itself in falling official unemployment and rising house prices. With such a lot of "feel-good" around, greater generosity could be afforded.

There are good reasons for finding the cash. Globalisation has replaced the cold war as the international preoccupation. Poverty of existing proportions does not sit comfortably with political stability or economic prosperity. Volatile oppressive regimes have been shown to decline as income rises.*

But British aid, which is fed through the Overseas Development Administration, is on course to hit a record low level next year.

The £2.06 billion allocated for aid in the Budget is a step nearer the £2.36 billion, at current prices, which was given in 1978/79 — but it represents about 0.26 per cent of Britain's gross national product. That is significantly less than the United Nations' target of 0.7 per cent.

Politicians now compare the UK's contribution with the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) average, but that was 0.27 per cent last year and is falling, so this shows Britain in a barely more favourable light.

Britain is not alone in its stinginess and it is America that would win a Scrooge of 1996 award for the cuts in overseas aid and the failure to honour earlier commitments to the World Bank's soft-loan arm, the IDA. The theory goes that President Clinton reduced money for countries that many Americans have probably never heard of in order to win co-operation from the Republican-dominated Congress for domestic programmes.

**In this year's climate, many administrations were looking for savings**

Aid agencies fear that where Uncle Sam leads, all others follow. But it seems that few nations need much teaching.

Even Norway, whose contributions as a percentage of GNP have been consistently higher than anybody else's and whose socialist credentials are glorious, stands accused of cooking its aid books.

According to the independent review of international aid, The Reality of Aid 1996, Norway is just one of the nations that has used tricks to cut its assistance budget. It tried to cover part of the cost of its contingent to the Nato forces in Bosnia by cutting 190 million krone (£18 million) off its 1995 development aid budget. Parliament balked, but it did permit a carry-over of an unspent 150 million krone from the 1995 budget instead.

Blaming a handful of nations for the international reduction in aid — which hit a new low of 0.3 per cent of the average GNP of DAC countries, is pointless. In a sluggish global economic climate, only just picking up according to the World Bank's economists, there were plenty of administrations looking for savings.

It would also be wrong to argue that aid is a left-wing issue and that an incoming Labour government can be expected to halt the decline in British overseas assistance. When Labour MP Clare Short metaphorically threw her toys out of her pram on television in protest at her party's treatment of the rail workers' unions, Tony Blair shuffled her from transport to overseas development. This was a clear punishment and hardly the action of a party with international poverty at or even near the top of its agenda.

Politicians like to think that they react to changes in public opinion, so the flagging commitment to development aid may reflect the belief that compassion fatigue set in after Live Aid. As if compassion were a commodity like gunpowder which could be exhausted after one fantastic firework display.

It is true that surveys in a range of countries have shown a small shift in public opinion, but it is only small. A British poll cited in The Reality of Aid showed that 80 per cent of participants wanted assistance maintained or increased.

During the recession, the fall in corporate donations — which have yet to pick up to earlier levels — reflected a wider tendency to view charity as beginning at home. Inadequacy breeds excuses.

An Institute for Economic Affairs study argued earlier this year that giving development aid to countries helped at best inefficient and at worst corrupt regimes. Its solution was to privatise developing countries and hand power to a series of latter-day Cecil Rhodes.

The World Bank has admitted that it is getting harder to secure government money for programmes and points to the rise of private-sector investment as a potential replacement.

But this is going to countries which are already benefiting from increasing aid flows, particularly countries from the former Soviet Union, and central and eastern European states since the end of the cold war. According to Actionaid, development aid money has even been donated to assist stockbrokers who are just starting out in those countries.

New research by Peter Boone for the LSE-based Centre for Economic Performance* takes a refreshing stance.

**Assistance has even gone to stockbrokers who are just starting out**

He concludes that even unconditional multilateral aid does not encourage oppressive regimes (oil revenues are more likely to buoy them). On the other hand, he argues that the amount of money a country receives bears little relation to the reduction of poverty as measured by key indicators such as the infant mortality rate.

This is primarily because aid does not translate into investment in infrastructure and social programmes but gets swallowed up in consumption.

Even where aid is granted for a specific project, for example a road, Mr Boone argues that in many cases the road would have been built anyway and so the money is used for other purposes, boosting consumption immediately.

Or it is used for the road, but then depreciation occurs, no repairs are carried out and the money that was targeted at investment disappears over time.

On average, only 15 per cent of aid money is spent on capital investment, the rest boosts consumption.

Mr Boone says that investment of 3 per cent of a developing country's GNP in basic health, education and sanitation projects has been shown to improve dramatically infant mortality rates and life expectancy, and he calls for more conditional assistance.

Targeting is already popular with governments, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) fear that it could be too popular because development aid might become less effective as countries work to their own agendas. This has already been seen in the row over debt relief this year.

Chancellor Kenneth Clarke called for the sale of more IMF gold to reduce crippling pay-backs by the world's poorest, most heavily indebted nations. Germany opposed this, apparently because it was refusing to sell domestic gold reserves to help ease the still-painful process of reunification.

Britain's reduction in contributions to the multilateral EU aid effort and to Unido suggests that it is also following its own path.

Given the similarity of multilateral action on debt relief to trench warfare — every small step forward takes utterly disproportionate diplomatic effort — and the time it takes for relief to trickle down to the poorest people, the main goal should still be cash for the sort of basic and relatively cheap projects which have been shown to have an immediate impact on poverty.

If some of the assistance fails to hit its target, then perhaps this is a price that must be paid for raising living standards among the people in regions like sub-Saharan Africa who are inextricably linked in people's minds with those Live Aid pictures.

* *Political and Gender Oppression as a Cause of Poverty, Peter Boone, CEP*

# IMF pulls plug on Mozambique

Unrest is growing over anti-inflation policy that has reduced the world's poorest nation to even more desperate straits. JOSEPH HANLON reports

PEACE HAS not brought prosperity to Mozambique. Four years after the end of the civil war, the poorest country in the world is growing poorer.

The reason is that the International Monetary Fund has ruled that annual inflation must be brought below 15 per cent before there can be significant post-war reconstruction. This policy is called "stabilisation", but former finance minister Magid Osman warns: "Putting stabilisation first makes instability more likely."

Delaying reconstruction is the opposite of the successful policies of Europe and Asia in the 1940s, after the second world war. But the IMF is taking a narrowly monetarist line, arguing that the already minimal level of demand must be further reduced to bring down inflation before investment can be allowed to increase supply.

Mozambique was a cold war battlefield: the decade-long war killed one million people and caused damage in excess of £15 billion. The war ended with a peace accord in 1992 and highly praised multi-party elections in October 1994.

Donors want to help Mozambique rebuild, but the IMF has insisted that donors spend £115 million *less* this year than in 1994 on reconstruction which it regards as inflationary.

Fears are growing that people will see no gains from peace and democracy. "If the government does not renegotiate its accord with the IMF, peace is threatened," warns Pedro Chibala, an official of Sintract, the independent drivers' union. "Be assured, war will break out again if things don't change."

This year there has been good rainfall and a record maize crop. The 1.7 million returned refugees look forward to earning their first big cash surplus. But piles of maize remain unsold: thousands of tons will rot.

"The country is being strangled," according to Orlando Candua, governor of Zambézia, normally Mozambique's richest province. He notes that four years after the war, many rural roads remain closed and nearly all of the 768 rural shops in his province destroyed in the war have not reopened.

Roads remain closed because the IMF has forced the government, donor nations and the World Bank to cut back on road repairs.

Small shops have always been the focus of Mozambican rural commerce, buying peasant maize and other crops and selling salt, cloth and other basic goods. Shopkeepers are clamouring to reopen their destroyed shops, but the IMF has forced a very tight cap on credit to the economy. It has said that what limited credit remains must be allocated by market forces because that is more "efficient". As a result, most loans go to urban traders involved in the import-export trade. There is no money for rural shopkeepers.

Social services have been similarly hit. The Ministry of Health had hoped by now to have reopened all 500 health posts destroyed in the war; IMF cuts mean it will take until 2005.

The IMF policy has now been in force for more than five years, but is a manifest failure, even in the organisation's own terms. In the late 1980s, at the height of the war, Mozambique imposed its own modified adjustment policy which led to significant growth and falling inflation. By 1991, GNP per capita had risen to £70 and inflation had fallen to 21 per cent.

That year the IMF imposed its stabilisation policy. Each year since then, GNP per capita has fallen. Mozambique now has a per capita GNP of £60, the lowest in the world according to the UN's 1996 Human Development Report. Industrial production rose in the late 1980s — during the war — but has fallen each year since stabilisation was imposed and is now half of the 1980 level.

After the IMF imposed its policy to control inflation, inflation actually increased. Each year, as inflation rose instead of falling, the IMF imposed more spending and credit cuts. By 1994 inflation was 78 per cent and the IMF concluded reconstruction aid was a major inflationary component, so it began forcing donors to reduce aid. Inflation has fallen somewhat, but remains above 40 per cent (high, but not hyperinflation).

Deeper and deeper spending cuts mean that most of the rural shops, schools, health posts and roads destroyed in the war remain closed, strangling Mozambique's predominantly rural economy.

In the city, shop windows display imported luxury goods for those few who can afford them; children sell beer and cigarettes on the street instead of going to school.

Debt relief was high on the IMF agenda at its annual meeting in October, but debt relief will do Mozambique no good. Fund officials have said that any money saved from debt repayments must simply be frozen, because using it for reconstruction is inflationary.

As well as being the poorest country in the world, Mozambique is also one of the most aid-dependent. Most bilateral aid is conditional on Mozambique having an agreed programme with the IMF, so there is little room to manoeuvre. Each year the IMF imposes tighter and more detailed conditions.

Public criticism is beginning to grow. The central committee of Frelimo, the main political party, said in May that "macroeconomic policies lose all legitimacy when they inevitably lead to the total degradation of the life of ordinary citizens, reducing them to absolute misery".

The Catholic Bishop of Nampula, Dom Manuel Vieira Pinto, says that "the IMF must stop looking only at its computers and look at real people in Mozambique. I see an enormous disillusionment and sadness in the people".

And he asks: "Will this all end violently?"

*Joseph Hanlon is author of Peace without profit: How the IMF blocks rebuilding in Mozambique (James Currey, Oxford); and edits the Mozambique Peace Process Bulletin.*

## Indicators

**TOMORROW — UK:** MO (prov) (Dec).
**FR:** Unemployment rate (Nov).
**US:** Consumer confidence (Dec).
**US:** New home sales (Nov).

**WEDNESDAY:** Holiday.

**THURSDAY — UK:** Purchasing managers index (Dec).
**US:** Construction spending (Nov).
**US:** NAPM index (Dec).
**GER:** Industrial production (Dec).

**FRIDAY — UK:** Consumer credit (Nov).
**UK:** M4 Final (Nov).
**UK:** M4 Lending (Nov).
**UK:** Official reserves (Nov).
**GER:** Manufacturing new orders (in weeks, Nov)

*Source: HSBC Greenwell Weekly.*

# Year in which we will feel good and get depressed

**Worm's eye**

Dan Atkinson

CONFUSING a bet with a vote is a sure and certain way to lose money. Never do it. For example, resist the temptation to forecast a new year free of greedy executives, fawning references to the "tiger economies", drivel about the Internet and expensive propaganda about the enormous benefits Britain will derive from the single European currency.

Instead, play safe and forecast the same things everyone else is forecasting. Not only is there safety in numbers but also the depressing fact is that the word from the herd has an unfortunate habit of coming to pass.

Thus, 1997 will see:

☐ Final confirmation that the "feel good factor" has returned. Afraid so — this is going to be the high noon of all those fake French restaurants and bogus Belgian beer bars. Hate it? Hibernate.

☐ An intensification of the eastern challenge, symbolised by the Chinese takeover of Hong Kong. Yes, the boiler-suited Beijing serial killers will be basking in some serious PR. This year much "new superpower" guff is on the cards — don't mention the power cuts, labour camps or public executions.

☐ A widespread understanding in British industry that people represent a company's greatest resource. Already, the capitalists have honed to a fine art the knack of simultaneously sacking 10,000 people and issuing a new "code of corporate ethics"; 1997 will see the two actions fuse into one (eg, "we fired 10,000 people whose lunchtime drinking habits breached our corporate ethics code").

☐ An end to Britain's tragic isolation in Europe. Sad, but true. Preacher Man's Brussels performance will make that of its predecessor look like Winston S Churchill on a good day. Stockpile Sten guns, baked beans and those natty black jerseys sported by Resistance men in old films.

☐ An extension of the technological revolution into the lives of ordinary people everywhere. There's no escape, sad to say. Ubiquitous hucksters and conmen will drone on ad nauseam about the "global digital revolution", shops will be piled high with expensive, instantly obsolescent rubbish. Hide away somewhere with Radio 4 for company (if it's still on air).

☐ A real understanding of economic and environmental interdependence. Pious-sounding forecast, meaningless but mandatory for any pundit.

☐ A growing sense that working women are finally gaining their rightful place at the very highest levels of industry. See above.

☐ A meaningful and long-term commitment to training and education as the only base for sustainable growth. Ditto.

☐ A new mood of confidence and renewal as we approach the millennium. Yes, its going to be ghastly. Head for the hills.

☐ A new respect for the professionalism, accuracy and integrity of the forecasting industry. See you next year!

## Tourist rates — bank sells

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Australia 2.04 | France 8.52 | Italy 2,511 | Singapore 2.28 |
| Austria 17.81 | Germany 2.53 | Malta 0.526 | South Africa 7.54 |
| Belgium 52.11 | Greece 405.75 | Netherlands 2.84 | Spain 213.25 |
| Canada 2.23 | Hong Kong 12.66 | New Zealand 2.51 | Sweden 11.31 |
| Cyprus 0.784 | India 59.63 | Norway 10.57 | Switzerland 2.18 |
| Denmark 9.72 | Ireland 0.96 | Portugal 255.95 | Turkey 173,720 |
| Finland 7.71 | Israel 5.47 | Saudi Arabia 6.25 | USA 1.84 |

*Supplied by Midland Bank (excluding Indian rupee and Israeli shekel) as at close of business on Friday.*

REVIEW OF THE 1996 FLAT RACING SEASON

# Singspiel's globetrotting exploits put Stoute on top

**Chris Hawkins** on a year when horses took runner-up spot to rows and whingeing

POLITICAL controversy, rows over racecourse safety and the whip, endless whingeing from owners, trainers and bookmakers; nothing much changed in racing in 1996.

In all this, much to the regret of the equine enthusiast, the action on the track was relegated almost to a sideshow but this review is concerned solely with the horse and its exploits.

On the Flat, in truth, it was not a vintage year and the names of the Classic colts will not linger long in the memory.

The first indication that this might be a moderate year came in the 2,000 Guineas.

As a spectacle it was a great race but with the first three home separated by little more than the width of a cigarette paper, it seemed unlikely that there was an outstanding miler among them.

Mark Of Esteem won by a short-head from Even Top with Bijou D'Inde a head away third. The three colts gave their all and their jockeys gave them plenty of assistance — the stewards then gave them whip-bans.

It was a significant triumph for Mark Of Esteem, who had been in the country just a few days after wintering in Dubai, and for the Godolphin team serving notice that Sheikh Mohammed's trainer Saeed bin Suroor meant business.

Mark Of Esteem, an attractive, little bay with a finely chiselled head, subsequently had an inconsistent season. He was unplaced behind Bijou D'Inde in the St James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot but won at Goodwood and Ascot in the autumn to raise hopes that he might fly the flag in the Breeders' Cup Mile in Toronto.

This he failed to do after being poorly drawn and racing on ground much softer than he liked. He finished seventh to Da Hoss, trained by Michael Dickinson who said the win gave him as much pleasure as the day he saddled the first five in the Cheltenham Gold Cup.

Although Mark Of Esteem failed to make the ultimate grade as a miler he was a lot better than Shaamit who will go down as one of the poorest Epsom Derby winners for years.

As a two-year-old he won a little race at Doncaster in the autumn and, without a run before Epsom, it was impossible to assess him.

Lester Piggott, father-in-law to trainer Willie Haggas, was reported to have put Shaamit through his paces and been suitably impressed, but it must have surprised even the maestro how easily he won.

Michael Hills rode a good tactical race, going for home two furlongs out and holding off the late finishers Dushyantor and Shantou.

But that was the only race Shaamit was to win. He was beaten in the King George, the Irish Champion Stakes and the Arc.

That he did not come up to scratch was emphasised by the fact that the Japanese showed no interest in him as a stallion and he will doing his duty for England at the National Stud next year.

The St Leger went to Shantou who reversed Epsom form with Dushyantor in a pulsating set-to. Frankie Dettori and Pat Eddery rode highly skilled finishes which again incurred the wrath of the stewards whose action in banning them brought derision on themselves.

Shantou and Dushyantor were honest but rather one-paced animals, something which was driven-home when both failed in the Breeders' Cup Turf although this race produced a wonderful one-two for Michael Stoute with Pilsudki and Singspiel.

Walter Swinburn grabbed the headlines on Pilsudski having come back from a dreadful fall in Hong Kong in the spring. Once again Swinburn proved that when it comes to the big races he has few peers. Cool and unflustered, he always seems to have his mounts in the right place and he brought Pilsudski through with a superbly timed final furlong challenge.

As for Stoute, he went on to an even greater world triumph when sending the incredibly tough Singspiel over to capture the Japan Cup in which the Arc winner Helissio could finish only third. After his earlier win in the Woodbine International, Singspiel had strong claims to be Horse of the Year.

Henry Cecil just failed in an intriguing battle with Saeed bin Suroor in the domestic trainers' championship but was disadavantaged by an injury to Bosra Sham which meant his 1,000 Guineas winner missed most of the summer.

Bosra Sham was not short of guts or talent. She won the Guineas on virtually three legs after bruising a foot a couple of days beforehand and this kept her out until the autumn when she ran second to Mark Of Esteem at Ascot and then floored Halling in the Champion Stakes.

That was her finest moment and Cecil's finest hour, although the runaway victory of his Lady Carla in the Oaks must have given him great satisfaction.

Unfortunately, Lady Carla had injury problems too and a a condition called "kissing vertebrae" kept her off the track following a poor run in the Irish Oaks.

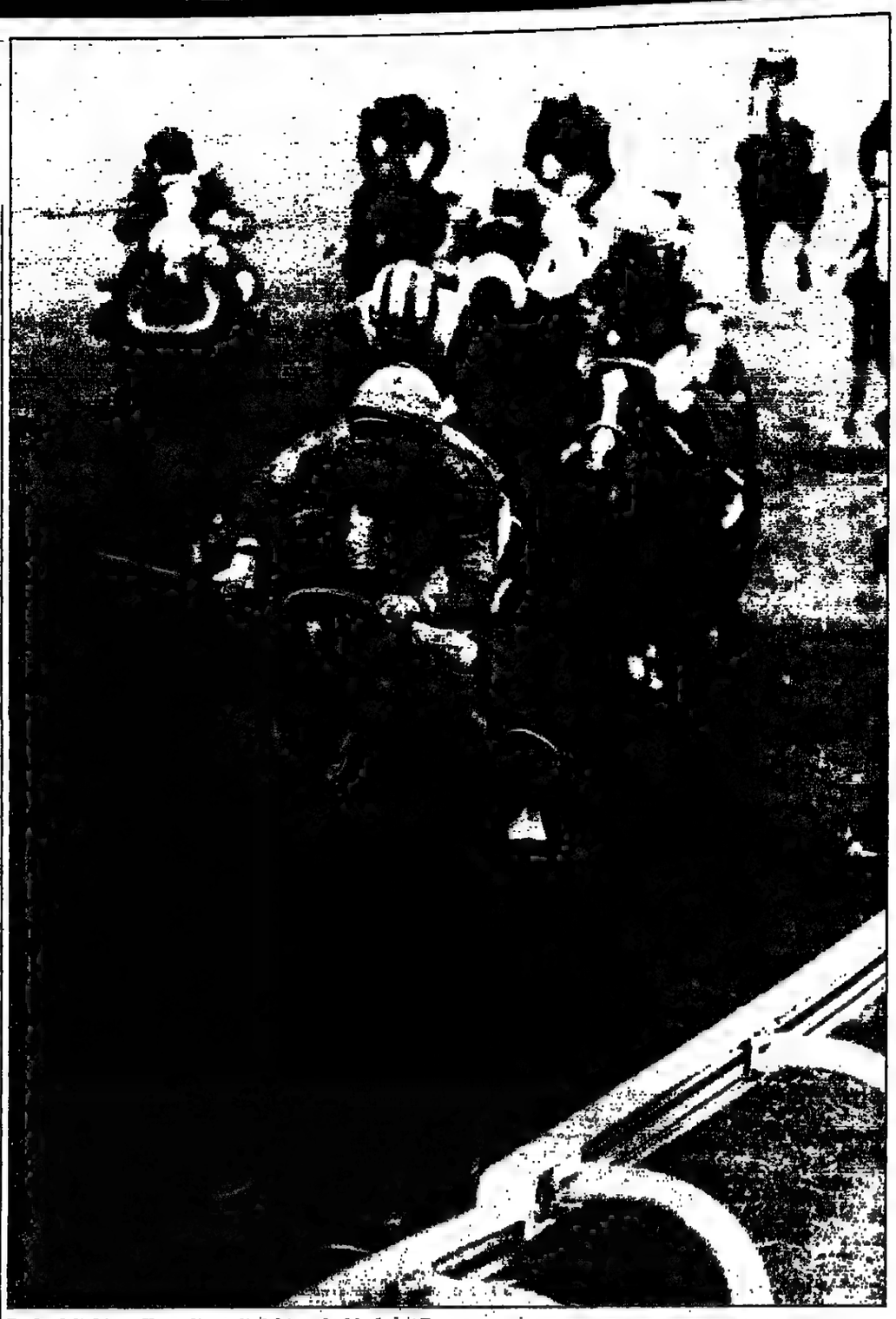
Both Bosra Sham and Lady Carla remain in training so next season is not short on expectation. But then that is always the case.

They say the prospects of seing what the leading two-year-olds do next year keep racing folk alive during the winter and with the likes of Bahhare, Putra and Sleepytime there is plenty to look forward to.

No review of this season can be complete without mention of Dettori's magnificent seven at the Ascot Festival.

It was the first time this feat had been achieved and Dettori is the best thing to happened in racing since the demise of the Jockey Club.

Japanese wave . . . Frankie Dettori responds to the crowd after winning on Singspiel PHOTO: GEORGE SELWYN



Derby delight . . . Shaamit gets it right on the big day at Epsom PHOTOGRAPHS MARTIN LYNCH

# Beveled to prove the master

**Ken Oliver**

TURF, all-weather or hurdling — Master Beveled takes them all in his stride and David Evans's versatile performer could well prove the star turn on Lingfield's equitrack this afternoon.

Master Beveled runs in the Manny Bernstein 20th Anniversary Handicap and though he was last seen on the Flat at Newmarket on November 2, finishing eighth of 26 to Saifan in the Ladbroke Autumn Cup, he has been kept busy over hurdles.

He ran a cracking race at Sandown earlier this month when, giving 12lb, he ran the much-improved Make A Stand to two lengths in the valuable William Hill Handicap Hurdle.

His astute trainer, who has a fine record at this afternoon's course, keeps Master Beveled (2.35) ticking over on his all-weather gallops and he looks worthy of the nap.

Richard Hannon also does well here and the Marlborough trainer could add to his impressive score with Effervescence in the Manny Bernstein Credit Betting Nursery.

Hannon's colt has been a model of consistency and makes a quick return after winning here on Boxing Day.

Backed down to 4–6, Effervescence (1.35) won an auction stakes by 11 lengths. He shoulders a 6lb penalty for that victory but is fancied to follow up.

One can not back Rawi with any confidence for Gay Kelleway's three-year-old has gone 23 races without a win.

He lacks finishing pace, but he should not need too much of that to cope with four moderate rivals in the Manny Bernstein New Year Maiden Stakes.

Rawi (2.05) found the pace too hot when third to Madrina over six furlongs here in November but this afternoon's seven furlongs is his best trip.

The concluding one and a half mile handicap provides Zuno Flyer (3.35) with a good chance to follow up a recent course and distance win.

He battled on well to get a short head verdict over the consistent Stalled and is given the vote over Yet Again.

The opening seller will not take much winning and it may pay to rely on Bon Secret (1.05) who ran well when third to Waikiki Beach in a claiming stakes here last week.

## Lingfield all-weather card with form

1.05 Bon Secret
1.35 Effervescence (nb)
2.05 Rawi
2.35 MASTER BEVELED (nap)
3.05 The Wyandotte Inn
3.35 Zuno Flyer

Direct Low numbers favoured. Going: Standard. * Denotes blinkers. Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since latest outing

**1.05** MANNY BERNSTEIN TRADE BETTING SELLING STAKES 1m 2f £3,636

101 000-013 BON SECRET (4) (C) (BF) T Naughton 4-9-6 ..... D Holland 6
102 340224 ARCATURA (24) C James 4-9-3 ..... C Rutter 14
103 054625 BAGSHOT (19) G L Moore 5-9-3 ..... S Whitworth 9
104 (5-6004 DRAGON GREEN (4) J Cullinan 5-9-3 ..... R Perham 10
105 042606 KASTLEIGH (4) (C) R Hollinshead 7-9-3 ..... Lisa Watson (7) 4
106 050000 FORGOTTEN DANCER (24) R Ingram 5-9-3 ..... S Sanders 3*
107 050300 KOMODO (10) J Long 4-9-3 ..... Louise Long 7
108 0-60006 NORTHERN CHIEF (4) J Cullinan 6-9-3 ..... V Slattery 11*
109 500200 OOZLER (24) (C) L Montague Hall 7-9-3 ..... Dane O'Neill 12*
110 003040 WARSPITE (68) P Mooney 5-9-0 ..... J Quinn 5
111 225303 FLAGSTAFF (11) K Burke 3-8-0 ..... P Waldron (7) 1
112 560000 RED RUSTY (62) (C) P Hodger 3-8-0 ..... A Clark 10
113 000026 SWEET AMORET (24) P Howling 3-8-0 ..... F Norton 2
114 050500 SHE SAID NO (17) (CD) A Moore 4-8-12 ..... Candy Morris 8

14 runners

TOP FORM TIPS: Flagstaff 8, Bon Secret 7, Flagstaff 6

Bettings: 3–1 Bon Secret, 7–2 Bagshot, 5–1 Flagstaff, 6–1 Red Rusty, 8–1 Sweet Amoret, Arcatura.

FORM GUIDE - BON SECRET: In touch, ridden over 2f out, one pace, 3rd of 9, 6l behind Waikiki Beach (Lingfield 1m 1f clm stks).
BAGSHOT: Outpaced, headway over 1f out, never nearer, 5th of 12, 8l behind Apollo Red (Lingfield 7f hcp).
FLAGSTAFF: Await, some late headway, never dangerous, 7th of 12, 11l behind Leigh Crofter (Wolverhampton 7f hcp).
RED RUSTY: Headway 3f out, one pace approaching final furlong, 9th of 18, 4l behind Power Game (Leicester 1m clm stks).
SWEET AMORET: Prominent over 5f, 6th of 14, 2½l behind Angel Face (Lingfield 1m 2f sell).
ARCATURA: Held up, ridden over 3f out, one pace, 4th of 13, 4l behind Persian Conquest (Lingfield 1m 2f sell).

**1.35** MANNY BERNSTEIN CREDIT BETTING NURSERY HANDICAP 2YO 7f £3,822

201 202401 EFFERVESCENCE (4) (68h ex) (CD) R Hannon 8–11 ..... Dane O'Neill 1
202 000213 MILLROY (11) (CD) P Kelleway 9–7 ..... M Wigham 4
203 644 FORGOTTEN TIMES (28) T Jones 8–5 ..... N Carlisle 5
204 341605 RUN LUCY RUN (48) (D) Miss Gay Kelleway 7–13 ..... Angela Gallimore (7) 3
205 00001 ISLAND PRINCE (4) (68h ex) (C) N Callaghan 7–10 ..... J Bramhill (7) 2

5 runners

TOP FORM TIPS: Effervescence 10, Millroy 5

Bettings: 5–4 Effervescence, 5–2 Millroy, 3–1 Island Prince, 7–1 Run Lucy Run, 25–1 Forgotten Times.

FORM GUIDE - EFFERVESCENCE: Led over 2f out, soon clear, beat Lily Jaques 11l (Lingfield 7f auct sust).
MILLROY: Chased leaders, driven over 2f out, stayed on, 3rd of 8, 6l behind Noonare Mr Niceguy (Wolverhampton 7f hcp).
ISLAND PRINCE: Chased leaders, led inside last, just held on, beat The Wyandotte Inn a short head (Lingfield 6f hcp).
RUN LUCY RUN: Never near to challenge, 5th of 11, 24l behind Return of Amin (Folkestone 6f 180yds hcp, sn).
FORGOTTEN TIMES: Chased leaders, ridden 2f out, one pace, 4th of 11, 9l behind Lina Major (Lingfield 1f rnds clm stks).

**2.05** MANNY BERNSTEIN NEW YEAR MAIDEN STAKES 7f £3,369

301 040000 EXTRA HOUR (163) W Muir 3–8–9 ..... Dane O'Neill 1
302 5 KATATONIC (26) J Toller 3–9–0 ..... S Sanders 2
303 0–04 ONE DREAM (139) S Smart 3–9–0 ..... R Perham 5*
304 045303 RUSTI (46) Miss Gay Kelleway 3–8–9 ..... D Holland 3
305 0–63 ZELAYA (19) G L Moore 3–8–9 ..... F Norton 4

5 runners

TOP FORM TIPS: Zelaya 8, Rawi 7

Bettings: 4–7 Rawi, 4–1 Zelaya, 8–1 Extra Hour, One Dream, 12–1 Katatonic.

FORM GUIDE - RAWI: Always prominent, ridden over 2f out, one pace, 3rd of 12, 6l behind Madrina (Lingfield 6f auct sale).
ZELAYA: Chased winner until final furlong, 3rd of 12, 6l behind Mr Nevermind (Lingfield 1m clm stks).

EXTRA HOUR: Tracked leaders, beaten 2f out, 7th of 8, 16l behind Colstower (Nottingham 1m 5f clm stks, Gd-Fm).
ONE DREAM: Held up, ridden 3f out, weakened well over 1f out, 4th of 6, 8l behind Felled To Hit (Folkestone 6f auct sust, Gd-Fm).
KATATONIC: Led over 5f out, headed over 3f out, soon weakened, 8th of 10, 16l behind Tullie (Lingfield 1m sell).

**2.35** MANNY BERNSTEIN 20TH ANNIVERSARY HANDICAP 1m 2f £3,606

401 01-3321 BAROSSA VALLEY (4) (98h ex) (CD) P Butler 5–10–5 ..... D Sweeney (3) 6
402 001100 MASTER BEVELED (66) (C) (D) P Evans 5–8–12 ..... A Culhane 3
403 603504 NO PATTERN (28) (C) G L Moore 4–9–11 ..... S Whitworth 11*
404 556550 APOLLONIO (67) (BF) R Lee 4–9–11 ..... S Sutton 8
405 230122 MARADATA (25) (D) R Hollinshead 4–8–7 ..... J Lynch (3) 1
406 300032 SLIP JIG (4) R Hannon 3–8–6 ..... A Gallagher (7) 4
407 203321 FATHER DAN (10) (CD) Miss Gay Kelleway 7–9–6 ..... D Holland 10
408 112503 BAKERS DAUGHTER (10) (CD) J Arnold 4–9–1 ..... A Clark 6
409 522–051 KNOWICK (10) (CD) P Hodger 7–8–13 ..... Dane O'Neill 5*
410 326033 ZAMBO (10) (CD) (BF) K Burke 5–8–11 ..... J Quinn 9*
411 0005 PRINCESSES LYPHARD (1446) M Pelgrave 5–7–10 ..... R Cochrane 7

11 runners

TOP FORM TIPS: Master Beveled 8, Father Dan 7, No Pattern 6

Bettings: 3–1 Master Beveled, 9–2 Father Dan, 6–1 Barossa Valley, 7–1 No Pattern, Maradata, 8–1 Bakers Daughter, Knowick.

FORM GUIDE - MASTER BEVELED: Led stands' side, outpaced over 2f out, run on final furlong, 6th of 20, 4l behind Sailing (Newmarket 1m hcp, Gd).
NO PATTERN: Prominent, led 4f out, headed 2f out, one pace, 4th of 8, 12l behind Fitial (Lingfield 1m 4f hcp).
MARADATA: Held up, headway over 2f out, stayed on inside last, 3rd of 12, 8l behind Barrel of Hope (Wolverhampton 1m 1f 76yds hcp).
FATHER DAN: Prominent, ridden 3f out, ran on one pace, 3rd of 14, 4l behind KNOWICK (Lingfield 1m 2f hcp).
KNOWICK: Headway over 4f out, led 1f out, ridden out, beat Sapphire Son 3l (Lingfield 1m 2f hcp).

**3.05** MANNY BERNSTEIN DON'T BE DISQUALIFIED MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES 2YO 6f £3,468

501 022322 THE WYANDOTTE INN (4) (BF) R Hollinshead 8–7 ..... F Lynch (3) 3
502 202204 WINDBORN (19) C Allen 8–5 ..... Martin Dwyer (3) 2*
503 20 KHAIRUN NISAA (98) M Pelgrave 7–12 ..... J Quinn 1

3 runners

TOP FORM TIPS: The Wyandotte Inn 8, Windborn 7

Bettings: 4–7 The Wyandotte Inn, 9–1 Khairun Nisaa, 7–2 Windborn.

FORM GUIDE - THE WYANDOTTE INN: Prominent, every chance inside last, just tailed, 2nd of 7, a short head behind Island Prince (Lingfield 5f hcp).
KHAIRUN NISAA: Prominent over 4f, 10th of 12, 15l behind Rachuilla (Wolverhampton 7f mdn auct stks).
WINDBORN: Not clear run 3f out, headway over 2f out, one pace, 4th of 8, 12l behind Millroy (Lingfield 7f mdn auct stks).

**3.35** MANNY BERNSTEIN CONDITIONAL/AIR HANDICAP 1m 4f £3,606

601 001616 PERSIAN CONQUEST (17) (CD) R Ingram 4–10–0 ..... D Holland 1*
602 035461 ZUNO FLYER (10) (CD) A Moore 4–9–9 ..... Candy Morris 9
603 310500 HALF AN INCH (117) T Jones 3–8–7 ..... N Carlisle 2*
604 304660 YET AGAIN (46) (D) Miss Gay Kelleway 4–8–9 ..... S Sanders 5
605 360350 RACING TELEGRAPH (48) C Allen 5–7–10 ..... Martin Dwyer (3) 3
606 000400 SAM ROCKETT (25) P Mooney 3–7–10 ..... J Quinn 7*
607 0000/P- WHIPPERS DELIGHT (2000) D Charles-Jones 7–7–10 ..... A McCarthy (7) 4

7 runners

TOP FORM TIPS: Yet Again 8, Zuno Flyer 7

Bettings: 9–4 Zuno Flyer, 3–1 Yet Again, 7–2 Persian Conquest, 6–1 Racing Telegraph, 10–1 Whippers Delight, 12–1 Half An Inch, 25–1 Sam Rockett.

FORM GUIDE - ZUNO FLYER: Prominent, led over 2f out, ridden out, beat Stalled a short head (Lingfield 1m 4f).
YET AGAIN: Always behind, 12th of 16, 15l behind Lucy Toby (Folkestone 1m 4f sell hcp, 3rd).
PERSIAN CONQUEST: With leader over 3f, 5th of 14, 10l behind Mafhaiba (Lingfield 1m 4f hcp).
RACING TELEGRAPH: With leaders until last place over 3f out, 12th of 13, 27l behind Inchkeith (Lingfield 1m).
WHIPPERS DELIGHT: Never able to challenge, 6th of 13 in race won by Sea Paddy (Beverley 1m 2f, Fm).
HALF AN INCH: Prominent over 4f, faded, 10th of 12, 11l behind Mr Nevermind (Brighton 1m clm, Fm).

● Blinkered for the first time — LINGFIELD: 1.05 Northern Chief; 2.05 One Dream; 3.05 Windborn.

# Dorans Pride has right credentials for Cup

**Chris Hawkins**

IMPERIAL CALL's victory in the Cheltenham Gold Cup last season was Ireland's first victory in the race since the legendary Dawn Run in 1986 and chasing in the Emerald Isle seems to be enjoying a new lease of life.

Now Danoli, who is accorded hero-worship almost on a par with Arkle, and Dorans Pride look as though they might become serious Gold Cup contenders.

Courage and durability are the two qualities, apart from the obvious one concerning an ability to jump, which characterise a top class chaser and Dorans Pride has all three in generous quantities.

The winner of the 1995 Sun Alliance Hurdle scored his fourth successive victory over fences on Saturday in the William Neville & Sons Novices' Chase at Leopardstown.

With only three opponents he had little to beat, something reflected in his starting price of 1–5, but he made all the running under Shane Broderick to score by a distance.

A year ago Dorans Pride was at death's door. An operation for a twisted gut was not successful and within 24 hours he was under the surgeon's knife again. This time things went better but it was six weeks before he was out of danger.

Michael Hourigan, his trainer, commented: "I've never known a horse pick up so quick. Soon he was bucking and kicking and he seemed so well I was tempted to run him at Punchestown in April."

Hourigan resisted the temptation but has been able to get on with the Orchestra gelding this season. Another couple of runs will mean six chases under his belt and that might be enough experience for a crack at the Gold Cup.

Hourigan is not quite so keen at this stage as Tom Doran, the owner, whose 25–1 ante-post voucher could ultimately be the deciding factor.

Dorans Pride is now as low as 12–1 with Ladbrokes although Coral make him a 16–1 chance.

"Things couldn't have gone better and I'm delighted with him," said Hourigan. "But we'll have to see how things go over the next couple of months before deciding about the Gold Cup." Dorans Pride has time on his side and will be seven next week but while eight is generally regarded as the optimum age for a chaser, Imperial Call was only seven when he won it.

That would suggest he has a great chance of winning back-to-back Gold Cups — a feat last achieved by L'Escargot in 1970 and 71.

Imperial Call has recovered from the slight leg injury received when he fell at the last on his comeback at Punchestown recently and is due to run at Leopardstown on January 19. After that, all being well, it will be the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Leopardstown in February followed by Cheltenham.

Richard Dunwoody won the valuable Ericsson Chase on Saturday on the favourite Johnny Setaside but that was not the end of the story.

On the walk back to the winner's enclosure Johnny Setaside suffered a heart attack and died.

Dunwoody . . . devastated

"He put up a very game performance to win," said a devastated Dunwoody. "I felt him falter for a stride or two as he came back but he walked on again and then fell down."

For Noel Meade, the trainer, it was a doubly sad blow as only last week he had lost the very promising hurdler Alasad with a broken shoulder.

"It always seems to happen to the good ones," said Meade. "I didn't see him collapse as I was jumping for joy at the time. When I reached the scene Richard was pretty shaken."

The freezing weather continues to play havoc with racing and the New Year's Day fixture at Cheltenham is very doubtful.

Philip Hobbs has made contingency plans for his two intended runners at this meeting Greenhill Tare Away, denied a run in the abandoned Welsh National, and Pleasure Shared.

"Greenhill Tare Away will go to Sandown for the Mildmay/Cazalet Chase, while Pleasure Shared heads for Haydock for a three mile conditions hurdle," said Hobbs.

Pleasure Shared survived several mistakes when making a winning debut over fences at Worcester but then fell at Lingfield last time.

Hobbs may well decide to revert permanently to the smaller obstacles with Pleasure Shared who, though beaten at Cheltenham, won the grade one Sefton Hurdle at Aintree.

# McCoy bids to keep warm

TONY McCOY is set to make his first visit to Catterick if tomorrow's meeting there gets the go ahead.

Dave Roberts, the champion jockey's agent, said: "There's not much chance of any racing in the south or the midlands, so we've decided to go to the north Yorkshire track. Tony has ridden at most courses, but as far as I know he hasn't been to Catterick."

Prospects are bleak for tomorrow's jump meetings at Fontwell, Taunton and Warwick, but there is a glimmer of hope for Catterick. There is no inspection planned and a spokesman said yesterday: "The track is raceable at present and we are very optimistic."

Today's four National Hunt meetings at Carlisle, Newbury, Plumpton and Stratford succumbed to the weather yesterday morning.

With the cold weather expected to persist for much of the week, prospects are poor for the early days of the New Year.

The prestigious televised meeting at Cheltenham on New Year's Day is in doubt and will be inspected this afternoon with Philip Arkwright, the clerk of the course, describing the prospects as "poor."

# Raheen looks a bargain

RAHEEN, who looked a potential star in the making as a juvenile when trained by Michael Stoute for Sheikh Maktoum Al-Maktoum last year, finally got his act together at Wolverhampton on Saturday.

The three-year-old, who was bought for 13,000 guineas out of Stoute's Newmarket stable, was wearing blinkers for the first time and turned the modest Eagle Maiden Stakes into a procession, scoring by eight lengths under apprentice Dennis Sweeney.

Bill Turner, who now trains Raheen, feels certain there is further improvement. "When I first rode him in a bit of work he was like a horse who had only just been broken in," said Turner. "He just didn't know what to do. Since he has been fitted with blinkers he has improved about five stones.

"I was going to run him in a £50,000 race here a couple of weeks ago, but he got balloted out.

"I am now planning to send him to the South of France in the New Year with my Brocklesby winner, Indian Spark. Both of them will run at Cagnes-Sur-Mer and then come back here for the start of the turf campaign."

Greenspan and Dane O'Neill proved a winning combination in the Merlin Claiming Stakes, the 5—1 chance coming home three lengths clear of Obelos.

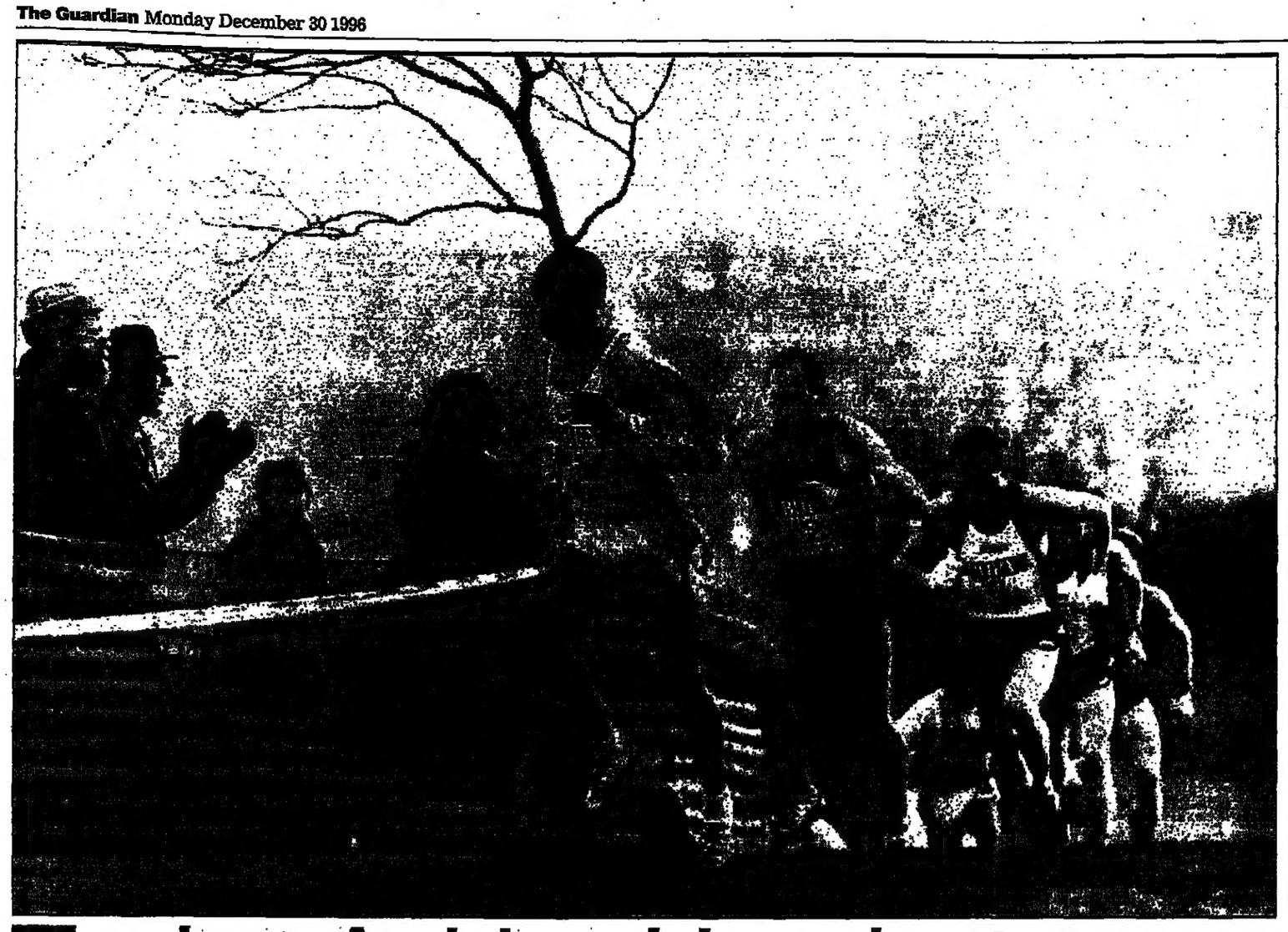
Les Eyre, who has enjoyed a wonderful year, took his score to 75 when winning with Murray's Mazda in division one of the Peregrine Handicap.

Elite Hope, at 7-2, won division one of the Peregrine much to the delight of favourite backers for he was the only market leader to oblige.

صفحة من الاجل

صكذا من الاصل





Cross-country life . . . Kenya's Daniel Komen leads Jon Brown round the bend and up the hill early on in Saturday's 9.3km Durham international (main picture) but the Vancouver-based Sheffield runner pulled clear in the final half-mile (above) to win by 3sec

# Today Aykley Heads, tomorrow Turin

**Duncan Mackay** on a masterly display in Durham mud that puts Jon Brown in the frame for a world cross-country medal in March

IT WAS becoming an embarrassment. Here we are, talking of our proud harrier heritage, yet no British man had won the nation's most prestigious international cross-country event for six years as a series of Africans jetted in to make them look second-rate.

So a cry, as great as that heard 15 miles away after seven goals at St James' Park, swelled over the Aykley Heads when Jon Brown, hardly out of breath and again invincible against the best Africa had to offer, gave British athletics a late Christmas present with a commanding victory in the Bupa-sponsored County Durham race.

The 25-year-old Sheffield runner ended his successful year in some style by keeping his nerve and concentration to outpace the Kenyan Daniel Komen in the sixth lap of the 9.3km (5.8 miles) course and complete a haf-trick of major victories in December.

On Saturday there were moments when the precocious 20-year-old Komen threatened to run away with the race as Brown, who became European champion in Belgium after beating the cross-country world champion Paul Tergat in Spain earlier in the month, ignored his sharp, aggressive surges.

But it was the Vancouver-based Brown who made the decisive break with half a mile of the rhythm-sapping course left, to finish 3sec clear of the world 3,000m record holder and become Britain's first winner since Eamonn Martin in 1990. "I never knew what he would do next," Brown admitted. "But I was feeling really good over the last couple of laps."

Those charged with sending Britain's best to the world championships in Turin in March will have failed in their task if they do not grant Brown's request for pre-selection. Come what may he will not run the March 8 trial in Northumberland. Next week he heads to Spain for another race but after that he will focus on preparing for Turin.

Even so Brown publicly refuses to set his sights any higher than a top-six finish there. The 12km race, always a cavalry charge of elite performers and raw, uninhibited talent, is probably the least predictable event on the calendar, and comparisons of winter form on varying terrains are almost meaningless.

"There are guys out there who are nowhere near their maximum," he said. "It will be a different ball game."

Brown provides further evidence that it takes years of hard work and determination to become an overnight sensation. Yet the grim-faced Yorkshireman, who always looks as if he has lost a pound and found a penny, remains calm and undeflected from his true ambition in the midst of a celebrity which he hopes will encourage some of his fellow Britons to raise their game.

"There are a lot of runners in this country with as much ability as me," he said. "The difference is, I don't think they prepare as well. I hope I have given them a target to aim for."

While Brown was warming up for his race, another Yorkshireman who shares the same kind of philosophy was underlining his claims to be Britain's top middle-distance runner. John Mayock, who grew up racing against Brown at school, won the 2km invitation race despite slipping 400m from the finish and suffering bruising.

Mayock, who has been coached by Peter Elliott for the past two years, reached the final of the Olympic 1500m in the summer but received more recognition for his victory at the Meeting of Peace in Sarajevo in September. "I think I can win a medal at the world indoor championships in Paris in March," he said.

Africa did have a winner, though, when Gete Wami, the world champion from Ethiopia, took the women's 5.2km event with ease. Paula Radcliffe, who was third, put up a spirited defence of her title in her first race since winning the New York road mile three months ago after struggling with injury.

Radcliffe ran shoulder to shoulder with Wami and Romania's Elena Fidatof until the final hill. There the 23-year-old Bedford runner suddenly ran out of steam and could only watch as her two rivals sprinted home.

Wami came in 1sec ahead of Fidatof, with Radcliffe a further 5sec back. "I had a stitch just before and there was nothing left coming up the hill," Radcliffe said. "I knew I wasn't that fit so I was quite surprised to come so close."

**Sailing**

## Morning Glory's moonlit triumph

**Bob Fisher** sees a 21-year-old record tumble in the Sydney-Hobart race

IT WAS all over in a twinkling. The Sydney-Hobart race was finished and the race record, which had stood for more than two decades, was a thing of the past. Hasso Plattner's 80ft Morning Glory had charged up the River Derwent to the finish line off Hobart's Battery Point 29 minutes and 46 seconds faster than Jim Kilroy's Kialoa III had managed in 1975.

It happened under a full moon, essentially in the dark, although anything but unnoticed. When Morning Glory rounded Tasman Isle with 40 nautical miles to go, there was every chance she would break the record of two days, 14 hours, 36 minutes and 56 seconds, and the winds were set fair for the German sloop to do so. The wind was in the west-south-west and the course, across Storm Bay to the Iron Pot light which marks the entrance to the River Derwent, allowed her to sail with cracked sheets at close to 13 knots.

She reached the Iron Pot 90min before Kialoa's time ran out, but historically that last 11 miles has been the breaking of anything but records. In 1972 Gordon Ingate in Caprice of Huon had the race sewn up but when the wind dropped away to nothing Ted Turner's American Eagle, already in the dock, became the winner as Ingate fumed and his time ran out.

The capricious nature of the winds in the Derwent is legendary, but as Morning Glory marched up towards the finish, with the moonlight shining through her moulded plastic sails, the gods were kind to Plattner. The blue-hulled sloop, surrounded by more than 85 boats crowded with eager spectators, heeled to every extra gust, accelerating each time, and headed towards history.

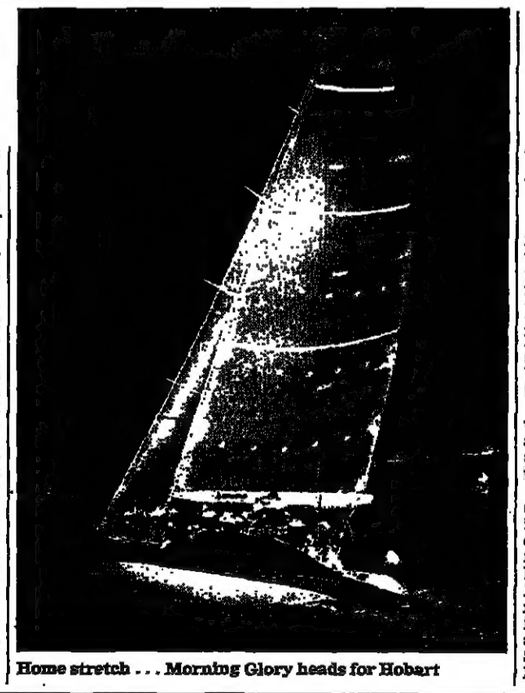
It had been a remarkable race for Plattner and his star-studded crew, which included the America's Cup winner Russell Coutts and his fellow Olympic gold medallist Torben Grael of Brazil. They had been early over the start, had returned to start correctly, and had been forced to nurse their mast — a replacement for the one broken only four days before the start — during the southerly gale of the first night, dropping the mainsail and sailing under only a small jib.

In that time the 66ft Exile had gone ahead but, when the strong north-easterlies blew, Morning Glory topped 25 knots on occasion to regain the lead and head for Hobart.

It was only after 12 hours of this that Plattner realised the record could be broken. Both mast and wind held to provide the crew with a bonus prize of A$300,000 (£143,000). "I will share this among the crew," said a happy Plattner. "I will look after the cost of the broken mast."

Morning Glory finished 2hr 46min ahead of Warwick Miller's Exile and for a while it seemed that the apple-green-hulled Hong Kong-based boat would win the race on handicap, but 9¼ hours later George Gjergja's 47ft Ausmaid crossed the line to have a corrected time 6¼ minutes better. With the wind falling once again, she seemed certain to be declared overall winner, particularly when Roger Hickman's Atara was 11 minutes too late and placed third behind Exile.

It had been a race for the bigger boats, a hard one early on which had sorted the wheat from the chaff. Only 17 of the 95 starters had reached the finish 24 hours after Morning Glory but, as the rest limp home, they are all assured of a reception they will not forget.



Home stretch . . . Morning Glory heads for Hobart

**Basketball**

## White the Playboy pin-up shocks Sheffield Sharks

Robert Pryce

THE Playboy TV Leopards, the Budweiser League's fastest and fastest-shooting team, may also be its best team. They have reached the final of the National Cup, are well placed in the league and last night completed a perfect December, seven wins out of seven, by beating the formidable Sheffield Sharks 88–79 at the Sheffield Arena.

"I still think we're the best team in Britain," the Leopards' coach Billy Mims said after losing 104–100 at home to the Sharks last month.

On that occasion his choice of a zone defence was called into question by the Sharks' outside shooting, four of his five starters fouled out and his team hit only one of their 11 three-point attempts. Last night's game seemed to be going the same way until just after half-time, when the Sharks led 49–39 and the Leopards hit them with a 14–0 burst highlighted by three John White three-pointers.

Robert Youngblood, the Leopards' chief inside threat, fouled out again but the London team outscored the Sharks 11–4 in the final two minutes to secure a wonderful win. White finished as the game's leading scorer with 33 points.

The enfeebled Worthing Bears were in no state to prevent the Newcastle Eagles advancing their title claim with a 92–76 away win on Saturday night. Cleave Lewis, the Bears captain, hit four three-pointers in the last quarter to finish with 28 points.

The Leicester Riders completed the year looking almost as debilitated. Despite 17 last-quarter points from Nat Reinking, they lost 85–76 at the Derby Storm, which gave them the perfectly wretched record of seven defeats in December. The new year should prove more prosperous with the whole team back to something like full fitness.

**Hockey**

## Clewlow's late strike gives East significant territorial advantage

Pat Rowley

A PERFECTLY struck corner shot by Canterbury's Melanie Clewlow with only 20 seconds remaining saved East from defeat by South and put them in an almost unassailable position to win the Women's Under-21 Territorial Tournament for a record seventh time at the National Stadium in Milton Keynes.

East's 1–1 draw with South means they are the only unbeaten side in the five-team round-robin event and have seven points from three games, three more than South in second place. Only South and West, who have to play twice today, can catch them but a draw by East in their final game, against West at 9.30 this morning, will give them the title.

If East do capture the title it will be because of Saturday's performances. Without three of their best players, the internationals Kirsty Bowden, Purdy Miller and Caroline Gilbert, they had to open against a full-strength Midlands side who were strong favourites and hoping to equal East's record of six championship successes.

Midlands looked the more cultured side but East snatched a 2–1 victory. Clewlow had a hand in both goals. She set up an early goal by Kerry Moore of St Albans, and it was from her hit-in that Sally Tredget (Old Loughtonians) deflected into the roof of the net for the winner. In between, Lucilla Wright confirmed why she is the leading scorer in the National League with a scorching shot.

In East's second match on Saturday they only woke up when North's Lucy Clarke scored the game's first goal as late as the 49th minute. Clewlow equalised with another firm corner drive and East went on to win 4–1 with two goals by Sarah Marsh, a clubmate of Clewlow's, and one by Tredget.

Yesterday East were behind against South for most of the game after a fine strike by Charlotte Manchester but their pressure finally told with Clewlow's inch-pefect shot.

**Tennis**

## Teenager flies in to give US a surprise win over France

JUSTIN GIMELSTOB and Chanda Rubin produced a surprise mixed doubles victory to enable the United States to beat the fourth-seeded France 2–1 on the opening day of the Hopman Cup in Perth.

Gimelstob, a 19-year-old student from New Jersey, helped the Americans to victory only 12 hours after flying across the world to replace Richey Reneberg, who was forced to withdraw as his wife is awaiting their first child. The jet-lagged teenager dominated Guy Forget, who was troubled by blisters on his left hand, for the first set and a half of their singles match before fading fast to lose 2–6, 6–3, 6–3.

Earlier Rubin, playing only her fifth match since June after wrist surgery, defeated Mary Pierce 6–4, 6–1 in 57 minutes. The American pair, who had never played together, then teamed up to beat Forget and Pierce 3–6, 6–3, 6–2 in the decisive doubles.

Gimelstob said: "Towards the end of the singles and early in the doubles I was so tired. But I just had to hang in there and Chanda taught me how to play mixed as we went along."

Croatia started the defence of their title with a 2–1 win over Australia despite Goran Ivanisevic suffering a 6–2, 6–3 defeat against Mark Philippoussis, who took only 59 minutes to dispose of the world No. 4 to level the tie at 1–1.

In a battle of two of the game's biggest servers Philippoussis, ranked 30 in the world, blasted his rival off court with 15 aces compared with Ivanisevic's five.

Ivanisevic, however, complained that he had been forced to play in an untested pair of shoes after his luggage failed to show up when he arrived in Perth on Saturday. He said it had taken 18 months for manufacturers to develop his footwear.

Wrong shoes or not, he and Iva Majoli, who had earlier beaten Nicole Bradtke 6–4, 6–3, eased past the Australian pair 7–5, 7–5 in another decisive mixed doubles.

**Skiing**

## Alphand sails on sea of tranquillity

LUC ALPHAND won his second World Cup downhill of the season yesterday on a treacherous piste in Bormio, Italy which claimed several of his rivals.

The organisers had put water on the higher turns overnight to harden the surface and hold it together and the racers found it difficult to control their skis.

The overall World Cup leader Hans Knauss of Austria started first but almost fell when his skis slid away from under him, and he retired halfway down the hill.

The world champion Patrick Ortlieb of Austria did not start, because of a stomach bug. Canada's Brian Stemmle and Italy's Peter Runggaldier did not finish, and Switzerland's Bruno Kernen simply crashed out. The race was repeatedly stopped as later starters came to grief.

"My first goal was to have a clean run and not to crash," Alphand said. The Frenchman, winner of the men's World Cup downhill title for the past two seasons, clocked 2min 51sec down the steep course. "It's a great way to finish the year," he added.

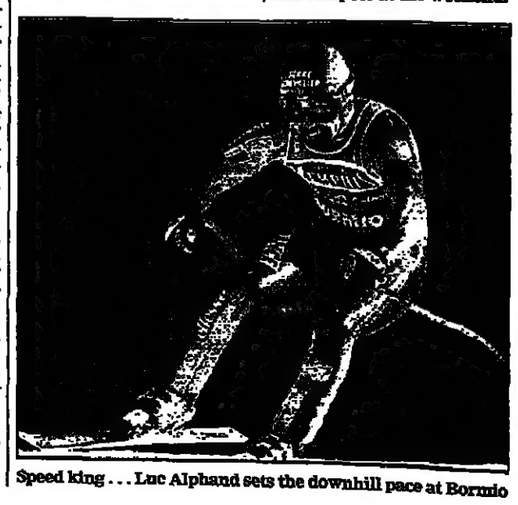
William Besse of Switzerland was second and Kristian Ghedina of Italy, Alphand's main rival after four downhills, was third. "It was a race for champions and I'm glad I won it," Alphand said. "The course was very demanding, icy and hard. But I was tranquil throughout and I managed to keep the speed high and my skis on the snow."

In Semmering, Austria, Deborah Compagnoni achieved the first World Cup slalom victory of her career yesterday. The Italian Olympic giant slalom champion produced two near-perfect runs in bitter temperatures of -17C.

She was fastest in both and clocked a total time of 1min 42.94sec to win by more than a second. "I trained for the slalom over the past five years but never managed to win a race. Semmering really brings me luck," she said.

France's Patricia Chauvet was second and the Austrian-born Claudia Riegler, who represents New Zealand, third.

Pernilla Wiberg of Sweden, who won Saturday's slalom, finished 13th but widened her lead in the standings over Katja Seizinger of Germany, who did not compete at the weekend.



Speed king . . . Luc Alphand sets the downhill pace at Bormio

Sunday's best . . . Croatia's Goran Ivanisevic and Iva Majoli after their 7–5, 7–5 Hopman Cup win over Australia's Mark Philippoussis and Nicole Bradtke in Perth. Germany's Dieter Thoma takes the Four Hills ski-jumping event in Oberstdorf

## Weekend results

### Soccer

#### FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

Arsenal ..... (1)2
Wright 13
Merson 73
Att: 38,130

Aston Villa ..... (0)2
Milosevic 66
Yorke 74

Arsenal: Lukic, Winterburn, Vieira, Gould, Adams, Wright, Merson, Bergkamp, Keown, Parlour, Garde (Morrow 67). Subs (not used): Lingham, Bartram, Hanson, Shaw.
Aston Villa: Bosnich, Staunton, Townsend, Taylor, Draper (Johnson 87), Milosevic, Yorke, Wright, Nelson, Ehiogu, Scimeca. Subs (not used): Joachim, Oakes, Tiler, Carok.
Referee J T Winter (Stockton on Tees).

Chelsea ..... (2)3
Zola 9
Hughes 23
Att: 27,497

Sheff Wed ..... (1)2
Pembridge 23
Stefanovic 80

Chelsea: Grodas, Petrescu, Phelan, Gallt, Clarke, Hughes, Duberry, Di Matteo, Newton (Wise 70), Zola, Burley. Subs (not used): Leboeuf, Vialli, Hitchcock, Sinclair.
Sheffield Wednesday: Pressman, Atherton, Nolan, Pembridge, Walker, Whitingham, Carbone (Blinker 73), Booth, Nicol (Oakes 87), Stefanovic, Humphreys (Donaldson 80). Subs (not used): Trustfull, Clarke.
Referee P A Durkin (Portland).

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Liverpool | 21 | 12 | 6 | 3 | 36 | 19 | 42 |
| Man Utd | 20 | 10 | 7 | 3 | 43 | 21 | 37 |
| Arsenal | 20 | 10 | 7 | 3 | 37 | 20 | 37 |
| Wimbledon | 19 | 11 | 4 | 4 | 33 | 23 | 37 |
| Newcastle | 20 | 10 | 4 | 6 | 35 | 22 | 34 |
| Aston Villa | 20 | 10 | 4 | 6 | 29 | 19 | 34 |
| Chelsea | 20 | 8 | 8 | 4 | 32 | 28 | 32 |
| Everton | 20 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 26 | 23 | 28 |
| Sheff Wed | 20 | 8 | 10 | 4 | 21 | 22 | 28 |
| Tottenham | 20 | 8 | 4 | 8 | 22 | 28 | 28 |
| Derby | 20 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 20 | 25 | 23 |
| Leicester | 20 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 20 | 27 | 23 |
| Sunderland | 20 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 19 | 28 | 23 |
| Coventry | 20 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 20 | 26 | 22 |
| Leeds | 20 | 6 | 4 | 10 | 16 | 24 | 22 |
| West Ham | 19 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 18 | 25 | 21 |
| Middlesbrough | 20 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 22 | 32 | 17 |
| Blackburn | 19 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 17 | 22 | 17 |
| Southampton | 20 | 4 | 4 | 12 | 28 | 37 | 16 |
| Notts Forest | 20 | 2 | 8 | 10 | 18 | 36 | 14 |

Coventry ..... (1)3
Huckerby 29
McAllister 64 (pen)
Liddle 85 (og)

Middlesbro ..... (0)0
Att: 20,617

Coventry City: Ogrizovic, Shaw, Williams, Dalsh, Richardson, Whelan, Dublin, McAllister, Salako, Telfer, Huckerby. Subs (not used): Filan, Burrows, Shilton, Boland, Caesar.
Middlesbrough: Walsh, Cox, Vickers, Liddle, Morris (Fjortoft 74), Emerson, Juninho, Blackmore, Hignett (Campbell 68), Beck, Ravanelli. Subs (not used): Roberts, Robson, White.
Referee S Lodge (Barnsley).

Derby Co ..... (0)0
Att: 17,847

Blackburn ..... (0)0

Derby County: Hoult, Laursen, Rowett, Yates, Simas, C. Powell, Carsley, Asanovic, Dailly (D. Powell 46), Sturridge, Ward (Gabbiadini 46). Subs (not used): Taylor, Trollope, Flynn.
Blackburn Rovers: Given, Kenna, Sherwood, Henchy, Le Saux, Gallacher, Sutton, Bohinen, Wilcox, McKoizey, Berg. Subs (not used): Marker, Flowers, Fenton, Gudmundsson, Donis.
Referee D R Elleray (Harrow on the Hill).

Everton ..... (1)1
Stuart 33
Att: 36,733

Wimbledon ..... (0)0
Ekoku 59
Leonhardsen 76
Sayle 76

Everton: Southall, Barrett, Unsworth, Rideout (Branch 73), Hottiger, Stuart, Ebbrell (Hills 80), Grant, Speed, Barmey, Ferguson. Subs (not used): Allen, Gerrard, Limpar.
Wimbledon: Sullivan, Cunningham, Kimble, Jones, Blackwell, Leonhardsen, Ekoku, Sayle, McAllister, Ardley, Jupp. Subs (not used): Reeves, Harford, Clarke, Fear, Murphy.
Referee M J Bodenham (East Looe, Cornwall).

Leicester ..... (1)2
Heskey 10
Izzet 63
Att: 20,532

Notts For ..... (1)2
Clough 37
Cooper 87

Leicester City: Keller, Grayson, Lewis (Lawrence 81), Hill, Prior, Marshall, Izzet, Thyne, Parker, Claridge, Heskey. Subs (not used): Poole, Watts, Campbell, Wilson.
Nottingham Forest: Crossley, Pearce, Cooper, Chettle, Gemmill (Lyttle 69), Saunders, Campbell, Woan (Allen 77), Haaland, Blatherwick, Clough. Subs (not used): Phillips, Fette, Roy.
Referee K W Burge (Tonypandy).

Man Utd ..... (1)1
Cantona 9 (pen)

Leeds ..... (0)0
Att: 55,256

Man Utd: Schmeichel, Neville, Irwin, May, Cantona, Beckham, Giggs, Keane, Scholes (Butt 45), Johnsen, Solskjaer (Cole 75). Subs (not used): McClair, Poborsky, Van Der Gouw.
Leeds United: Martyn, Kelly, Palmer, Ruddock, Rush, Deane, Bowyer, Hasle, Yeboah (Gray 70), Jackson, Dorigo. Subs (not used): Beeney, Harte, Beasley, Ford.
Referee P E Alcock (Redhill, Surrey).

Newcastle ..... (2)7
Shearer 20, 53
Ferdinand 22, 59
Lee 61, 89
Albert 78

Tottenham ..... (0)1
Nielsen 86
Att: 36,308

Newcastle United: Hislop, Beresford, Batty, Peacock, Lee, Beardsley, Shearer, Ferdinand, Gillespie (Clark 40), Watson, Albert. Subs (not used): Srnicek, Crawford, Elliott, Kitson.
Tottenham: Walker, Wetherall, Howells, Calderwood, Fox, Nielsen, Sheringham, Wilson, Iversen, Campbell, Carr, Simon (Dozzell 46), Dozzell (Rosenthal 54). Subs (not used): Austin, Saardsen, Nethercott.
Referee G Ashby (Worcester).

Southampton ..... (0)0
18,222

Liverpool ..... (0)1
Barmes 76

Southampton: Bennett, Dodd, Maddison, Van Gobbel (Hughes 81), Lundekvam, Benali, Neilson, Robinson, Ostenstad, Berkovic, Watson (Le Tissier 68). Subs (not used): Magilton, Bastien, Monkou.
Liverpool: James, Molsner, Wright, Babb, Ruddock, McManaman, Collymore (Berger 71), Fowler, Barmes, Bjornebye, Thomas. Subs (not used): Matteo, Warner, Kennedy, Jones.
Referee S Dunn (Bristol).

West Ham ..... (1)2
Bilic 37
Rebrokis 90

Sunderland ..... (0)0
Att: 24,077

West Ham: Hallad Miklosko, Dicks, Breacy, Bilic, Rieper, Bishop, Moncur (Lampard 69), Porfirio, Williamson (Radiciolu 62), Newell, Hughes. Subs (not used): Jones, Rowland, Sealey.
Sunderland: Perez, Hall, Kubicki, Ord, Melville, Kelly, Smith (Atkinson 32), Russell (Bridges 28), Rae, Agnew, Brazewell. Subs (not used): Preece, Gray, Stewart.
Referee R Dilkes (Mossley, Lancs).

#### NATIONWIDE LEAGUE

##### First Division

Barnsley ..... (2)2
Sosenzo 20 (pen)
Moses 32

Man City ..... (0)0
Att: 17,199

Barnsley: Watson, Eaden, Appleby, Bosenzo, Davis, De Zeeuw, Hendrie (Liddell 86), Moses, Wilkinson, Marcelle, Sheridan. Subs (not used): Bullock, Jones.
Manchester City: Margetson, McGoldrick (Brown 46), Crooks, Lomas, Symons, Brightwell, Summerbee, Whitley, Heaney, Kinkladze, Rosler. Subs (not used): Dickov, Kavelashvili.
Referee R Pooloin (Huddersfield).

Birmingham ..... P
Tranmere ..... P

Bolton ..... (2)3
Sellars 30, 35
McGinlay 76 (pen)

Southend ..... (1)1
Rammell 40
Att: 16,367

Bolton: Branagan, Phillips, Ward, Bergsson, Seal, Frandsen (Todd 69), Taggart, Fairclough, Green (Lee 80), Sellars, Blake, McGinlay, Sheridan (Pollock 81).
Southend United: Royce, Harris, Dublin, McNally, Regis, Halls, Gridelet, Byrne, Rammell, Williams (Thomson 84), Tilson. Subs (not used): Nielsen, Dornan.
Referee T E West (Hull).

Charlton ..... (0)0
Att: 12,259

Wolves ..... (0)0

Charlton Athletic: Salmon (Jones 88), Brown, Barness, O'Connell, Scott, Chapple, Newton, Lesbarrs, Robinson, Wiyts, Kinsella. Subs (not used): Robson, Rizzo.
Wolverhampton Wanderers: Stowell, Smith, Dennison, Atkins, Venus, Ebanks, Corica, Thomas, Sut, Goodman, Osborn. Subs (not used): Law, Dowe, Ferguson.
Referee R Styles (Walsoriouville).

Crystal Pal ..... P
Stoke ..... P

Huddersfield ..... (0)2
Lawson 59
Payton 69

Ipswich ..... (0)0
Att: 11,467

Huddersfield Town: Norman, Jenkins, Cowan, Bullock, Stimrot, Gray (Burnett 69), Makel (Dyson 85), Collins (Lawson 46), Crosby, Tynan, Edwards.
Ipswich Town: Wright, Stockwell (Dyer 78), Tarlaco, Cundy, Tanner, Williams, Linderbeek, Sanner, Naylor (Thomsen 80), Scowcroft, Mason. Sub (not used): Forrest.
Referee A G Wiley (Burtonwood, Staffs).

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bolton | 26 | 13 | 10 | 3 | 53 | 36 | 49 |
| Barnsley | 26 | 13 | 9 | 4 | 44 | 27 | 47 |
| Sheff Utd | 26 | 13 | 7 | 6 | 44 | 28 | 46 |
| Wolverhampton | 26 | 11 | 7 | 7 | 34 | 28 | 40 |
| Crystal Palace | 26 | 10 | 9 | 6 | 40 | 27 | 39 |
| Oxford Utd | 26 | 10 | 7 | 9 | 37 | 32 | 37 |
| QPR | 26 | 10 | 7 | 9 | 36 | 35 | 37 |
| Stoke | 26 | 10 | 7 | 9 | 31 | 31 | 37 |
| Port Vale | 26 | 9 | 10 | 7 | 29 | 25 | 37 |
| Norwich | 26 | 10 | 6 | 9 | 34 | 36 | 36 |
| West Brom | 26 | 7 | 12 | 6 | 42 | 40 | 33 |
| Sunderland | 26 | 10 | 3 | 13 | 35 | 32 | 33 |
| Ipswich | 26 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 33 | 32 | 33 |
| Tranmere | 26 | 8 | 6 | 10 | 32 | 32 | 30 |
| Portsmouth | 26 | 8 | 6 | 11 | 30 | 31 | 30 |
| Charlton | 26 | 10 | 3 | 12 | 28 | 35 | 33 |
| Birmingham | 26 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 34 | 32 | 32 |
| Huddersfield | 26 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 30 | 34 | 32 |
| Barnsley | 26 | 7 | 8 | 11 | 28 | 35 | 29 |
| Oldham | 26 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 28 | 31 | 27 |
| Man City | 26 | 6 | 2 | 15 | 27 | 40 | 20 |
| Southend | 26 | 5 | 10 | 11 | 25 | 46 | 25 |
| Bradford | 26 | 5 | 6 | 13 | 23 | 42 | 23 |
| Grimsby | 24 | 5 | 7 | 12 | 26 | 44 | 22 |

Norwich ..... (1)2
Adams 35 (pen)
O'Neill 62

Bradford ..... (0)0
Att: 13,473

Norwich City: Gunn, Newman, Jackson, Eadie (Forbes 80), Polson, Sutch, Adams, Fleck (Sand 88), Milligan, Johnson (Ullathorne 45), O'Neill.
Bradford City: Schmeichel, Jacobs, Hamilton, Ekoroma, Mohan, O'Brien (Pinto 84), Wadde, Duxbury, Sundgot (Shutt 64), Steiner, Dreyer. Sub (not used): Hustard.
Referee D Orr (Ayr).

Oxford ..... (1)2
Beauchamp 7
Murphy 81

Reading ..... (0)1
Morley 89
Att: 9,226

Oxford United: Whitehead, Robinson, M. Ford, Smith, Elliott, Marsh, Moody (Murphy 68), Gray, B. Ford, Jerson, Beauchamp. Subs (not used): Massey, Purse.
Reading: Wright, Booty, Bodin, Caskey, Holsgrove (Gilkes 55), McPherson, Sewell, Williams, Morley, Hogan (Quinn 77), Gooding. Sub (not used): Sims.
Referee C Wilkes (Gloucester).

Port Vale ..... (0)0
Att: 7,322

Portsmouth ..... (1)2
Hall 11
Svensson 47

Port Vale: Musselwhite, Aspin, Tankard, Talbot, Griffiths (Walker 83), Glover, McCarthy, Porter, Foyle, Naylor, Guppy. Subs (not used): Stoker, Jansson.
Portsmouth: Knight, Whittaker, Pethick, Daniels, Pearl, Awford, Hall, Simpson, Bradbury, Svensson (Carter 68), Cook. Subs (not used): Dobson, McLaughlin.
Referee S Coddington (Bletchley).

Sheff Utd ..... (1)2
Taylor 6
Kalsbeek 70
Att: 16,132

Oldham ..... (1)1
Rickers 80

Sheffield United: Kelly, Beard, Nilsen, Hutchison, Hodgson, Holdsworth, Spedman (Walker 82), Patterson, Taylor, Kidsmaure, Whitehouse (Simpson 17). Sub (not used): Sandford.
Oldham: Addelle, Kelly, Fleming, Barnett, Henry, Garnett, Graham, McIntosh, Rickers, Ormondroyd (McCarthy 80), Banger (Barlow 80), Richardson. Sub (not used): Snedin.
Referee B Knight (Orpington).

Swindon ..... (0)1
Att: 8,780

Grimsby ..... (0)0

Swindon Town: Digby, Kerslake, Horlock, Leitch, Robinson, Elkins, Culverhouse, Watson, Ouen, Allison, Collins. Subs (not used): Orpwood, Smith, O'Sullivan.
Grimsby Town: Pearcey, Jobling, Gallimore, Fielding, Rodger, Widdrington, Childs, Lester, Black, Mendonca, Woods. Abandoned after 61 m. Subs (not used): Shakespeare, Southall, Wraith.
Referee M R Halsey (Welwyn Garden City).

W.B.A. ..... (1)4
Sneddon 4
Bull 61
Hunt 72
Peschisolido 77

G.P.B. ..... (0)1
Spencer 65
Att: 19,081

West Bromwich Albion: Crichton, Holmes, Raven, Groves (Donaldson 78), Smith, Peschisolido, Hunt, Hazelden. Subs (not used): Taylor, Butler.
Queens Park Rangers: Roberts, McDermott, Bravell, Barker, Meddix, Ready, Spencer, Peacock, Dichio, Brazier, Sinclair (Impey 66). Subs (not used): Hateley, Murray.
Referee J P Robinson (Hull).

##### Second Division

Bradford ..... P
Chesterfld ..... P

Bristol R ..... P
Millwall ..... P

Burnley ..... (1)5
Coates 21, 88
Smith 62
Barnes 82 (pen), 88

Gillingham ..... (1)1
Bailey 14
Att: 10,004

Burnley: Russell, Parkinson, Eyres (Thompson 31), Harrison, Brass, Hoyland, Mather (Weller 81), Smith, Coates, Barnes, Gleghorn. Sub (not used): Vinnicombe.
Gillingham: Stannard, Green, Butters, Chapman, Bryant, Thomas (Butler 45), Reinelton, Smith, Lawrence, Bailey. O'Connor (Manuel 46). Sub (not used): Piper.
Referee I Cruikshanks (Hartlepool).

Crewe ..... (0)2
Adebola 82, 86

Bournemouth ..... (0)0
Att: 3,667

Crewe: Kearton, Barr, Stilling, Lightfoot, Macauley, Whalley, Charnock, Savage, Morsley (Tierney 66), Murphy, Adebola. Sub (not used): Lisk, Ungerer.
AFC Bournemouth: Glass, Young, Vincent, Ferdinand, Cox, Bailey (Brissett 61), Holland, Mursy (Fletcher 46), Rawlinson (Town 81), Watson, Bernard.
Referee S W Mathieson (Stockport).

Luton ..... P
Wycombe ..... P

Notts Co ..... P
Plymouth ..... P

Peterboro ..... P
Wrexham ..... P

Preston ..... (0)0
Att: 10,855

Bristol City ..... (1)2
Agnew 17
Cooke 86

Preston: North, Reid, Mimms, Cross (Watkins 77), Barrick (Squires 85), Davey, Kidd, Gregan, Ashcroft, McDonald, Reeves, Bennett, Kilbane. Sub (not used): Bryson.
Bristol City: Naylor, Owers, Barnard, Kehl, Taylor, Hinnigan, Bent, Carey, Agostino, Cooke (Nugent 73), Tinnion. Subs (not used): Goodridge, Peterson.
Referee T Holbrom (Newton Aycliffe).

Rotherham ..... (0)1
Goodwin 87 (pen)
Att: 3,266

Barry ..... (1)1
Matthews 16

Huddersfield Town: Cherry, Bisset, Rizzo, Garner, Monington, Brecknin, Sanderson, McGleishan, McDougall, Glover (Goodwin 72), Eyre (not used): Dobbie, Hayward.
Barry: Kiely, West, Pugh, Dura, Ladwell, Jackson, Butler (Woodward 59), Carter, Johnson (Jepson 80), Johnson, Matthews (Randall 72).
Referee K M Lynch (Knaresborough).

Shrewsbury ..... (1)3
Bass 32
Stevens 63

York ..... (0)0
Att: 3,169

Shrewsbury Town: Edwards, Nielsen, Whitson, Spink, Dempsey, Taylor (Carris 85), Stevens, Brown, Ambrosus, Berkley, Evans. Subs (not used): Waker, Ward.
York City: Clarke, McMillan, Aldcroft, Pepper (Jordan 78), Tuttil, Barras, Foster, Alde, Tolson (Campbell 78), Bull, Stephenson. Sub (not used): Hall.
Referee S J Baines (Chesterfield).

Stockport ..... P
Watford ..... P

Walsall ..... P
Blackpool ..... P

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brentford | 23 | 13 | 5 | 4 | 41 | 23 | 47 |
| Luton | 24 | 14 | 4 | 6 | 45 | 25 | 46 |
| Bury | 24 | 11 | 9 | 4 | 35 | 23 | 42 |
| Millwall | 25 | 11 | 8 | 6 | 35 | 26 | 41 |
| Stockport | 25 | 11 | 8 | 6 | 32 | 27 | 41 |
| Bristol City | 25 | 11 | 7 | 7 | 43 | 28 | 40 |
| Burnley | 25 | 12 | 4 | 9 | 36 | 28 | 40 |
| Brighton | 24 | 10 | 9 | 5 | 34 | 27 | 40 |
| Watford | 24 | 9 | 12 | 3 | 25 | 19 | 39 |
| Wrexham | 23 | 10 | 8 | 5 | 31 | 27 | 38 |
| Chesterfield | 23 | 11 | 5 | 7 | 23 | 18 | 38 |
| Shrewsbury | 25 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 34 | 40 | 32 |
| Walsall | 24 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 28 | 28 | 30 |
| Bournemouth | 25 | 7 | 9 | 9 | 31 | 31 | 30 |
| Bristol Rovers | 25 | 7 | 9 | 10 | 28 | 33 | 29 |
| Peterboro | 25 | 8 | 5 | 12 | 24 | 34 | 29 |
| York | 24 | 8 | 5 | 11 | 24 | 34 | 29 |
| Blackpool | 24 | 6 | 10 | 8 | 25 | 27 | 28 |
| Rotherham | 25 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 37 | 43 | 27 |
| Plymouth | 25 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 26 | 36 | 27 |
| Gillingham | 25 | 7 | 6 | 12 | 35 | 35 | 27 |
| Wycombe | 25 | 6 | 5 | 14 | 22 | 38 | 23 |
| Notts County | 24 | 5 | 7 | 12 | 26 | 38 | 22 |
| Rotherham | 24 | 3 | 8 | 13 | 20 | 36 | 17 |

##### Third Division

Colchester ..... P
Fulham ..... P

Darlington ..... (1)1
Atkinson 13
Att: 2,700

Leyton O ..... (1)2
West 31

Barlington: Newell, Shaw, Cains (Byrne 71), Bryson, Crosby, De Vos (Twynham 46), Lees (Barbara 79), Atkinson, Robinson, Naylor, Oliver. Subs (not used): Skilton, Hendon, Naylor, Chapman, Warren, Joseph, Channing, Ling.
West (Inglethorpe 88), McGleish, Helgenstrom (Howie 78). Sub (not used): Winston.
Referee C J Foy (St Helens).

Exeter ..... (1)2
Stake 39
Rowbotham 85

Cardiff ..... (0)0
Att: 3,595

Exeter City: Cherrington (Dalby 77), Rice, Steele, Stela (Flack 46), Richardson, Rowbotham, McKeown, Brabbrelle, Bailey, Hare. Sub (not used): McConnell.
Cardiff City: Mountain, Perry, Pitfield (Haworth 68), Eckhardt, Fowler, O'Halloran, Rodgers (Ryan 80), Millerchip, White, Barton, Gardner. Sub (not used): Jarman.
Referee F Stretton (Headingham).

Hartlepool ..... (1)2
Allon 4
Howard 73

Hereford ..... (0)1
Smith 46
Att: 1,923

Hartlepool United: O'Connor, Ingram, Davies (Tait 59), Beech, Lee, McCuskie, Allon, Cooper, Howard, Clegg (Sunderland 88), Halop. Sub (not used): Wilkinson.
Hereford United: De Bont, Norton, Fishlock, Smith, Brough, Matthewson, Hargreaves, Stoker, Kostka, Cross, Warner (I. Foster 79). Sub (not used): Meadows, A. Foster.
Referee J A Kirkby (Sheffield).

Lincoln ..... P
Chester ..... P

Mansfield ..... P
Doncaster ..... P

Northampton ..... (1)2
Sampson 40
Cooper 81

Barnet ..... (0)0
Att: 5,060

Northampton Town: Woodthorpe, Clarkson, Maddison, Sampson, Warburton, Rennie, Perrick, Grayson (Lee 90), Cooper, Rush (Martin 85), O'Shea. Sub (not used): Dolan.
Barnet: Taylor, Cook, Pedtrey, Coster, Primus, Howard, Tomlinson, Samuels, Watson, Campbell, Brazil. Subs (not used): Parsley, Brady, Goodfield.
Referee D Pugh (Wirral).

Rochdale ..... P
Hull ..... P

Scarboro ..... (0)1
Brodie 57
Att: 2,222

Brighton ..... (1)1
Storer 34

Scarborough: Mellanen, Kay, Lucas (Hicks 46), Barnett, Sutherland, Rockett, Thompstone (McElhatton 62), Brodie, Mitchell, Ritchie, Brodie. Sub (not used): Worrall.
Brighton & Hove Albion: Rust, Smith, Tuck, Taylor, Hoddle, Stone, Pinates, Black, Fox (McCarthy 68), McDonald. Subs (not used): Andrews, Parris.
Referee A Dales (Stoke-On-Trent).

Scunthorpe ..... (0)2
Eyre 35 (pen)
McFarlane 82
Att: 2,833

Wigan ..... (1)3
Sheridan 23
Skelton 69
Kilford 89

Scunthorpe: Lucas, Hoxham, Wilson, Turnbull, Hope, Walsh, Paterson (Calvo-Garcia 83), D'Auria, McFarlane, Eyre, Clarkson. Subs (not used): Jackson, Barlow.
Wigan: L. Salter, J. Salter, Johnson, Greenall, Pender, Martinez, Diaz (Diggle 88), Morgan, Saville, Rogers, Kilford. Subs (not used): Carrington, Lowe.
Referee A Butler (Sutton in Ashfield).

Swansea ..... (1)0
Att: 7,340

Carlisle ..... (0)1
Proctor 80

Swansea: Freestone, Thomas, Morgan, Walker, Edwards, Jones, Jenkins, Penney, Torpey, Melby, Coates. Subs (not used): King, Coles, Angus.
Carlisle: Caig, Delap, Archdeacon, Walling, Edmondson, Varty, Thomas, Proctor, Baker, Hayward, Aspinall. Subs (not used): Currie, McAddon, Sandwith.
Referee S G Barrett (Redhill, Surrey).

Torquay ..... (0)0
Att: 2,760

Gateshead ..... (1)1
Hayward 32

Torquay: Wilson, Mitchell, Barrow, McCall (Gallacy 67), Hawthorne, Watson, Wilder (Preston 63), Nelson, Holsh, Holloway (Crane 87). Stamps. Subs (not used): Cambridge Barrett, Joseph, Granville, Preece, Crosdale, Abbess, Hayes, Hyne, Kyd (Richards 67), Barnwell, Beall (Thompson 82). Sub (not used): Turner.
Referee K Leach (Wolverhampton).

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fulham | 25 | 16 | 6 | 4 | 48 | 18 | 53 |
| Carlisle | 26 | 15 | 7 | 4 | 40 | 24 | 52 |
| Cambridge Utd | 25 | 14 | 5 | 6 | 37 | 20 | 47 |
| Wigan | 25 | 13 | 5 | 6 | 43 | 28 | 44 |
| Swansea | 25 | 11 | 7 | 7 | 33 | 27 | 40 |
| Northampton | 26 | 10 | 7 | 9 | 36 | 33 | 37 |
| Cardiff | 24 | 11 | 4 | 9 | 38 | 34 | 37 |
| Chester | 26 | 10 | 6 | 7 | 27 | 25 | 36 |
| Hull | 25 | 9 | 9 | 7 | 33 | 27 | 36 |
| Colchester | 25 | 7 | 13 | 5 | 38 | 30 | 34 |
| Scarborough | 25 | 9 | 7 | 9 | 31 | 31 | 34 |
| Torquay | 26 | 10 | 4 | 12 | 28 | 39 | 34 |
| Barnet | 25 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 32 | 32 | 32 |
| Leyton Orient | 25 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 32 | 32 | 32 |
| Lincoln | 25 | 8 | 7 | 10 | 31 | 33 | 31 |
| Hartlepool | 25 | 8 | 4 | 13 | 30 | 39 | 31 |
| Gateshead | 25 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 27 | 33 | 29 |
| Rochdale | 24 | 6 | 11 | 7 | 30 | 34 | 29 |
| Mansfield | 24 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 28 | 33 | 29 |
| Darlington | 25 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 32 | 38 | 27 |
| Hereford | 25 | 6 | 5 | 14 | 26 | 38 | 24 |
| Brighton | 25 | 4 | 6 | 15 | 23 | 48 | 18 |

#### BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE

##### Premier Division

Aberdeen ..... (0)1
Shearer 80
Att: 10,000

Hibernian ..... (1)1
D. Jackson 14

Aberdeen: Walker, Winters, Tynemouth, Rowen (Young 72), Irvine, Kenbourne, Miller, Dodds, Samuel, Windass (Shearer 63), Glass (Booth 46). Hibernian: Leighton, Donald, Love, Grant (C. Jackson 46), Dods, Miller, McAllister, Wilkie, Wright, D. Jackson, Cameron. Subs (not used): McLaughlin, Deer.
Referee G T Clyde (Saxmead).

Celtic ..... (2)4
Cadete 35, 82
Van Hooijdonk 38
Donnelly 89

Dundee Utd ..... (0)1
Britton 69, 8
Att: 46,818

Celtic: Kerr, Boyd, McKinlay, O'Neil, Stubbs (McStay 80), O'Donnell, Di Canio, McAvey (Weghorst 88), Van Hooijdonk, Donnelly (Hannah 61), Cadete.
Dundee United: Westwater, Dec Stewart, Miller, Tod, Welsh, Miller (McCulloch 63), French (Smith 63), Moore, Britton, Petrie, Fleming (Ireland 81).
Referee M Pocock (Aberdeen).

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rangers | 19 | 15 | 2 | 2 | 50 | 17 | 47 |
| Celtic | 17 | 11 | 3 | 3 | 36 | 18 | 36 |
| Aberdeen | 20 | 8 | 8 | 4 | 22 | 18 | 32 |
| Dundee Utd | 20 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 22 | 19 | 27 |
| Hearts | 20 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 20 | 20 | 27 |
| Hibernian | 20 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 22 | 30 | 23 |
| Dunfermline | 19 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 29 | 40 | 23 |
| Kilmarnock | 19 | 6 | 2 | 10 | 25 | 33 | 20 |
| Motherwell | 20 | 4 | 6 | 10 | 20 | 33 | 18 |
| Raith | 19 | 4 | 3 | 12 | 15 | 35 | 15 |

Hearts ..... (1)4
Robertson 22 (pen),
73, Weir 88
Hamilton 83

Motherwell ..... (1)1
Coyne 12
Att: 11,984

Hearts: Rousset, Mole, Hagerelin, Weir, Ritchie, Mackay (McCann 86), Goss (Murray 65), Fulton, Robertson (Thomas 75), Cameron. Motherwell: Woods, Lehtonen (Wishart 46), McSkimming, Van Der Gaag, Martin (Burns 80), Pratsben, May, Dolan, Coyne, Davies (Reddle 70), Falconer.
Referee J Rowlinson (Kirkcaldy).

Kilmarnock ..... P
Rangers ..... P

Raith ..... (0)0
Att: 5,782

Dundee ..... (1)4
Olafsson 2

Raith: Scott Y Thomson, Kirk, Craig, Anderson, Dennis, Mitchell, Tweddle (McGill 78), Duffield, Scott Thomson, Lennon, Rougier. Subs (not used): Taylor, Kirkwood.
Dundee: Van Dykstra, Bowman, Malpas, Pressley, Perry, Pedersen, Clarkson, Zetterlund, Waters, Mckinlay (McGregor 66), McLaren (McGregor 66), Bayne (not used): Johnston.
Referee G H Simpson (Peterhead).

#### SCOTTISH LEAGUE

##### First Division

Airdrie ..... P
Clydebank ..... P

Dundee ..... (4)6
Tosh 2
Power 28, 48
Chrumley 32
O'Driscoll 82, 87

Partick ..... P
St Johnstn ..... P
Att: 2,912

Referee T M McCurry (Glasgow).

Stirling A ..... P
Morton ..... P

St Mirren ..... P
Falkirk ..... P

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| St Johnstone | 19 | 14 | 2 | 3 | 40 | 9 | 44 |
| Dundee | 20 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 36 | 32 | 34 |
| Airdrie | 19 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 31 | 19 | 29 |
| St Mirren | 19 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 30 | 33 | 30 |
| Gr Morton | 19 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 22 | 16 | 27 |
| Falkirk | 19 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 16 | 19 | 27 |
| Partick T | 19 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 27 | 31 | 25 |
| Clydebank | 19 | 5 | 3 | 11 | 16 | 30 | 18 |
| Stirling | 19 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 21 | 37 | 14 |
| East Fife | 19 | 1 | 4 | 14 | 11 | 36 | 7 |

##### Second Division

Berwick ..... (1)1
Robinson 5 (pen)
Att: 825

Ayr ..... (1)2
P. Smith 44
Horace 48

Berwick: W S G Young (Clarkston).

Brechin ..... (0)2
Connolly 80
Brand 84
Att: 350

Dumbarton ..... (0)1
Grainger 69 (pen)

Hamilton K R Ebsist (Inverurie).

Hamilton ..... P
Livingston ..... P

Queen Sth ..... P
Clyde ..... P

Stenhsmr ..... P
Stranraer ..... P

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Livingston | 19 | 12 | 4 | 3 | 30 | 14 | 40 |
| Ayr | 19 | 10 | 3 | 4 | 32 | 20 | 33 |
| Hamilton | 17 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 34 | 14 | 34 |
| Clyde | 17 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 22 | 20 | 28 |
| Stranraer | 17 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 23 | 15 | 23 |
| Queens of South | 18 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 28 | 32 | 23 |
| Brechin | 19 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 20 | 27 | 19 |
| Stenhsmr | 18 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 19 | 25 | 19 |
| Dumbarton | 19 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 22 | 36 | 17 |
| Berwick | 19 | 1 | 5 | 13 | 18 | 44 | 8 |

##### Third Division

Alloa ..... P
Inverness ..... P

Cowdenbth ..... P
Albion ..... P

E Stirlng ..... P
Arbroath ..... P

Forfar ..... P
Queens Pk ..... P

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inverness CT | 19 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 32 | 21 | 35 |
| Ross County | 19 | 9 | 5 | 7 | 30 | 25 | 32 |
| Inverness | 19 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 32 | 27 | 30 |
| Alloa | 17 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 27 | 23 | 28 |
| Forfar | 19 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 27 | 28 | 25 |
| Cowdenbeath | 18 | 7 | 4 | 7 | 22 | 22 | 24 |
| Albion | 17 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 21 | 19 | 24 |
| Queen's Park | 19 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 26 | 31 | 20 |
| Arbroath | 18 | 3 | 5 | 10 | 16 | 36 | 14 |
| East Stirling | 18 | 3 | 5 | 10 | 16 | 36 | 14 |

#### ICIS LEAGUE

##### Premier Division

Yeovil ..... P
Gosport ..... P

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Yeovil | 20 | 15 | 3 | 2 | 54 | 15 | 48 |
| Enfield | 20 | 13 | 5 | 2 | 43 | 17 | 44 |
| Sutton Utd | 19 | 10 | 6 | 3 | 35 | 20 | 36 |
| Dag & Red | 18 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 29 | 11 | 35 |
| Enfield | 20 | 10 | 5 | 7 | 36 | 27 | 35 |
| Oxford City | 21 | 10 | 4 | 7 | 44 | 36 | 34 |
| Hayes | 21 | 10 | 3 | 8 | 28 | 25 | 33 |
| Hastings | 20 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 27 | 21 | 33 |
| Tonbridge | 20 | 10 | 3 | 7 | 30 | 24 | 33 |
| Kingstonian | 22 | 8 | 7 | 12 | 35 | 36 | 31 |
| Carshalton | 21 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 27 | 31 | 31 |
| Hitchin | 21 | 7 | 4 | 10 | 25 | 35 | 25 |
| Fisher | 18 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 29 | 20 | 28 |
| Kingstonian | 18 | 8 | 2 | 10 | 25 | 33 | 26 |
| Gravesend | 17 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 27 | 21 | 26 |
| Bromley | 20 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 27 | 31 | 26 |
| Purfleet | 20

Down and out . . . Dave Beasant can hardly believe he has made the howler that handed yesterday's match to Liverpool PHOTOGRAPH: TONY MARSHALL

Soccer

Premiership: Southampton 0, Liverpool 1

# Beasant bloomer sees Saints lurch nearer to the drop

**Paul Weaver** hears the neutrals titter as goalkeeper gives Barnes a gift at The Dell

LIVERPOOL will enter the new year with a five-point lead and as the 13-8 favourites to win the title. But they achieved all this with a performance at The Dell yesterday which can only galvanise their rivals with fresh hope.

They won through a shocking goalkeeping error that will probably find its way into one of those video blooper compilations in time for next year's Christmas stockings.

For the first time this season the visitors wore an all-cream away strip but this Liverpool were semi-skimmed at best and for most of the match struggled to contain a Southampton side whose position now looks desperate after seven defeats in eight games.

It was a late, soft goal which gave Liverpool victory over Southampton at Anfield in September but nothing quite so bizarre as yesterday's 77th-minute effort by John Barnes, making his 300th league appearance for the club.

Southampton's goalkeeper Dave Beasant raced beyond the right edge of his area but his rushed clearance sent the ball to Barnes, just inside the Saints half. He was 43 yards out, according to the Sky computer, when his shot, not cleanly struck, sent the ball bobbling narrowly inside the right post as the forlorn, scrambling Beasant lunged back across his own goal-line. The few neutrals tittered with the sheer embarrassment of it all.

The goal was a fluke, as Barnes happily admitted, but he was one of the few players on the pitch with the composure to capitalise on the unusual opportunity.

"We were atrocious in the first half," he conceded cheerfully. "We couldn't string two passes together. We were lucky today. But we are battling and not giving goals away. We are fighting and making wins out of draws and that is what winning championships is all about."

Liverpool had been outplayed for most of the first half, with Barnes and Michael Thomas strangely deep and subdued and Steve McManaman, as is the current fashion, man-marked into obscurity by the diligent Ulrich van Gobbel.

In the second half they matched Southampton but the home side brought on Le Tissier in the 56th minute and he could easily have won the game for them.

Southampton's manager Graeme Souness said: "That goal just about sums up our season. You have to feel for the keeper. There is not a player around who doesn't make mistakes but you didn't hear me saying that on the final whistle. The trouble is we keep gifting teams goals and if we carry on doing that we will go down. We have gifted Liverpool six points this season.

"Teams don't have to do anything clever against us. The foundation of any team is its defence and we're not looking particularly solid in that area. Today we were better than Liverpool in the first half and although they lifted themselves after the break we continued to play at least as well as them."

Liverpool's only clear opening in the first half came in the 11th minute when Thomas put Robbie Fowler clear. But Liverpool's leading scorer, whose comeback had been keenly awaited after the disappointing 1-1 draw with Leicester, chose to shoot from the narrowest of angles instead of passing inside to the unmarked Stan Collymore.

Fowler and Collymore, who was substituted by Patrik Berger midway through the second half, were hugely disappointing. But they were denied their usual service from midfield, where Eyal Berkovic and Robbie Slater were outstanding in the first half.

Liverpool found something of their old momentum at the start of the second half but the introduction of Le Tissier brought an edge to Southampton's game and David James had to be at his best to deny a 67th-minute volley from the England forward. A minute later Le Tissier went close to winning a penalty when he was obstructed by Neil Ruddock on the edge of the area.

Seven minutes before the goal James was tested again, this time Egil Ostenstad providing a firm header from Berkovic's typically sharp through-ball. When Liverpool did score they might have added further goals, but by then Southampton looked past caring.

Manchester United 1, Leeds United 0

# Cantona gives drab day a gloss finish

Ian Ross

MANCHESTER United's rise towards the summit of the Premiership has been met with startled bewilderment in some quarters but, as their manager Alex Ferguson said only recently, his team's priorities have hitherto lain elsewhere.

"It has been a good Christmas for us," Ferguson said after this untidy affair as he gently chided those bookmakers who until recently were offering odds of 7-1 against a fourth United title in five seasons.

"I always knew it was going to be difficult to combine the differing demands of Premiership football and the Champions League. But we had got to the point where we said to ourselves, 'Enough is enough, let's get down to playing the way we can'."

After three straight wins in the space of eight days, anything — quite possibly everything — again seems possible.

Ferguson's side were fortunate, though, for had they been up against accomplished rather than merely worthy opponents, they would have been beaten comfortably.

Leeds United seemed to sense very early that the ruthless streak that had carried United to emphatic wins over Sunderland and Nottingham Forest in the previous week was conspicuously absent. Sadly for Leeds, crucially for United, unfortunately for Liverpool and Arsenal, they could do nothing about it.

In what was a surprisingly timid affair, Leeds dominated for lengthy spells but so painfully lightweight are they in midfield that they created only one chance, Radebe miskicking wildly after Schmeichel had failed to gather Bowyer's first-half corner.

Probably the best Leeds can hope for this season is a meaningful bonding of supporters and new manager. The revolution of thought and deed promised by George Graham's arrival will not be embarked upon for some time.

In the summer months, when a manager's dirty work is undertaken, Graham will begin to drain the pool he inherited from Howard Wilkinson, moving on without ceremony or regret many of those players he chose to applaud at Old Trafford.

But he is a wily old bird. All week Tony Yeboah had rocked the boat by insisting that he should be recalled after an eight-month lay-off. And so, with the "give him enough rope" principle to the fore, Graham bowed to the Ghanaian's demands. Before being hauled off midway through the second half Yeboah, boasting all the mobility of an oak wardrobe, contributed nothing.

"He looked unfit and overweight," said Graham with the air of a vindicated man.

The argument was to be settled by Eric Cantona's orthodox penalty conversion after nine minutes but it was the move that won the kick which was to provide the afternoon's one lingering memory.

Cantona, half the player he can be but twice the player he was three weeks ago, swept forward imperiously, exchanging passes with Giggs, who was hauled down by Kelly as he shaped to shoot.

Imperious . . . Eric Cantona strikes the winning penalty

Coventry City 3, Middlesbrough 0

# Huckerby tops foreign legion

Peter White

IT MAY have been cold enough to freeze their gloves off at Highfield Road on Saturday but in truth the heat is on for the expensive foreign imports of Middlesbrough.

Messrs Ravanelli, Emerson, Juninho and Beck hardly lifted an icy finger between them to try to halt the alarming slide of the Teesside club, who have managed a totally unacceptable seven points from their past 14 Premiership outings.

If their manager Bryan Robson was hoping that the Boxing Day victory over Everton was the start of an upturn in fortunes, then this latest festive offering must have convinced him that he was very much mistaken.

"We cannot keep going on like this. We played well for an hour but then gave goals away," Robson said. "We have a lot of injuries to defenders and have now picked up a couple more knocks. I don't want to start playing again so it looks as though I shall have to go out and buy."

The Spanish international defender Miguel Nadal, known as the Beast of Barcelona, is one player Robson has in mind.

An offer of £3.25 million has already been rejected by the Barcelona manager Bobby Robson but, if the younger Robson is prepared to increase his bid to £4 million, a clause in Nadal's contract would allow him to move to the Riverside Stadium.

But can Robson afford any more foreign luxuries? Emerson clearly did not relish the treacherous conditions underfoot. It may have been 30 degrees in both Sao Paulo and Coventry but the fact that the figures were in Fahrenheit here, as against Celsius in Brazil, made him a virtual non-competitor.

Juninho appeared only in short bursts, while Ravanelli clearly became more frustrated with his Middlesbrough colleagues as the game progressed.

The Dane Beck made no impact as Coventry dominated, with their £1 million signing from Newcastle, Darren Huckerby, proving that bargain buys can still be found within the home-grown ranks.

Huckerby, having headed Coventry into a 29th-minute lead, later caused havoc in the Middlesbrough defence with a lightning break which prompted the pursuing Morris to tumble over and deliberately handle in the penalty area.

McAllister scored from the penalty spot with almost as much conviction as the Middlesbrough defender Cox showed when, in attempting to clear Telfer's cross, he volleyed the ball high into his own net to complete a miserable afternoon for the visitors.

Meanwhile Coventry's fourth successive victory provided them with their best sequence of league results in 24 years and put them in the perfect frame of mind for the New Year's Day visit of Sunderland.

But their manager Gordon Strachan remained cautious. "There is still a long way to go and there is no point in getting too happy or excited only to get a kick up the backside," he said.

# Nigeria sights set on Keegan

IF KEVIN KEEGAN thinks it is hard work at Newcastle there is an opening in Nigeria. According to local newspaper reports, he and the former Leeds manager Howard Wilkinson have been approached by the Olympic champions, who are seeking a coach to succeed Jo Bonfrere, who resigned in October.

Danladi Bako, assistant director of the country's sports ministry, confirmed local newspaper reports that the former Wimbledon and Aston Villa striker John Fashanu had been asked to help find a successor to the Dutchman.

"We have got in touch with high-profile managers like Keegan, Wilkinson, Louis van Gaal, Johan Cruyff and Albert Faffe to select one for the vacant position of manager of the Super Eagles," said Bako.

Amodu Shaibu, Bonfrere's Nigerian deputy, has been coaching the side since the Dutchman quit but it is hoped to have a new man in place by next month.

Bako said: "We are desperate to have a new manager to work with Shaibu but the man to fill Bonfrere's position must be able to fit into and operate within the Nigerian situation. It will be disastrous and criminal if we fail to qualify for the 1998 World Cup."

Nigeria, preparing for an away qualifying game against Kenya on January 11, are second in their group to Guinea, who lead on goal difference.

Middlesbrough have dismissed reports linking their midfielder Juninho with a move to Real Madrid. The club's chief executive Keith Lamb, who has consistently denied rumours of interest from abroad in the diminutive Brazilian, said the claims were "pure speculation and a load of rubbish".

Derby County 0, Blackburn Rovers 0

# Rovers rely on Sutton's sheen

Mark Redding

THE departure of Alan Shearer may have gone down like a lead balloon with Blackburn Rovers and their supporters but it is at least giving a rise to one of their players. Step forward Chris Sutton, formerly the country's record transfer at £5 million and currently proud owner of the blue-and-white No. 9 shirt.

In Blackburn's 1994-95 championship-winning campaign the Sutton half of the SAS scored 15 league goals. Last season an ankle injury restricted him to nine league games in which he failed to register and he became the forgotten man of Ewood Park.

When Shearer left, however, Rovers were once more forced to dial S for Sutton and the lanky centre-forward has since expanded into the space left by the England captain to make the place his own. This time out he is Rovers' top scorer with six in the league.

Under Tony Parkes's caretaker management Sutton has been playing as a lone striker and he said the new system was more to his liking. "We won the championship playing 4-4-2 and I think teams found us out," he said. "Now we're playing more of a passing game."

Against Derby, Sutton had two good chances but his sharp header down in the first half was kept out by the home goalkeeper Hoult and his ferocious shot in the second was repelled by the crossbar. "I feel I'm still getting my fitness back but I'm pleased I'm taking up the right positions and I'm hopeful that goals will come and come in abundance," he said.

Parkes felt that Blackburn, coming off their Boxing Day victory over Newcastle, had done enough to earn their first away win of the season and avenge their 2-1 defeat at home by Derby in September. "There's a lot of confidence and spirit within the club and I think they believe they can get out of trouble," he said.

Both Blackburn and Derby are beneath the halfway point in the table marked by Tottenham Hotspur in 10th place. Spurs have won eight games and lost eight. Above them are the teams who have won more than they have lost and are challenging for a place in Europe. Below them are those who have lost more than they have won and are already limbering up for the fight against relegation. "It's going to be a major dogfight until the end of the season," said the Derby County manager Jim Smith.

Blackburn, stuck in the bottom three, may be a long way below Derby's 11th but, of the two, Rovers have the healthier sheen. Derby have not won since November and have taken only two points from five games, which is relegation form.

Blackburn on the other hand are on a modest roll. They have won three, drawn four and lost only two since Parkes took over nine weeks ago and at Ewood the "R" word is being treated with disdain.

Leicester City 2, Nottingham Forest 2

# Return of Clough on full-time cards

John Lawson

FRANK CLARK could still have a big say in Nottingham Forest's campaign for Premiership survival. Less than a fortnight after resigning as Forest manager he looks likely to be handed the task of halting Manchester City's slide. And one of his first major decisions will be whether to let Nigel Clough continue his prodigal son act for Forest after returning there 10 days ago.

The fact that Forest cannot buy him until their takeover is completed further clouds the issue, but an extended loan may not be out of the question as Clough strives to rebuild a career that had been sadly decaying in Liverpool and Manchester.

Stuart Pearce, captain and caretaker manager, said: "You know exactly what you are going to get from Nigel. His range of passing is still [at 30] second to none, and whenever he goes on to the field he wears his heart on his sleeve.

"I brought him into the club because I knew that over a busy holiday period we could use the qualities he possesses. It's plain for everyone to see that he still has much to offer at the highest level."

For much of the game Forest resembled the side that had won only once in their first 17 league outings, but for a 20-minute period before half-time they responded so well to Clough's prompting and example that they could have taken a stranglehold.

In that period he rejoiced in a superbly struck equaliser that cancelled out Heskey's 10th-minute goal. Izzet regained the lead for Leicester in the 63rd minute but Cooper's late, looping header earned Forest a point.

If Clough is proving there is still a place for his mix of skill and character, then Leicester must be wondering what price their newly cut diamond will mature into. Emile Heskey is a fortnight from his 19th birthday and will score more memorable goals than Saturday's. But there are flashes of brilliance in his repertoire that could make the difference to Leicester's survival in the final analysis.

The City manager Martin O'Neill rightly eulogised about the passion and commitment of his injury-hit side but he also knows he has a special talent in Heskey that could provide extra class when it will surely be needed.

Pearce already needs a rest. He admitted that his first week in his double role had left him "mentally exhausted" but he reaffirmed his commitment to completing his full term as caretaker before making a decision on his future.

"Management in itself is tough but trying to combine it with playing as well is doubly hard," he said. "Sometimes you have enough on your plate getting yourself on to the pitch but now I've got 12 or 13 others to bother about. I write down one team I think is best for the next game and end up with 10 teams scattered all over the living-room floor."

Scottish League round-up

# Auction boot bonanza but Celtic play the lottery

Patrick Glenn

ON THE day that Paolo di Canio's cast-off boots raised £58,000 at auction, perhaps it was not so surprising that Celtic should demonstrate a bemusing eccentricity in the victory which kept them on Rangers' tail in the Premier Division championship.

While the Parkhead side were beating Dunfermline 4-2 at home, their Italian forward's unique, gold-coloured footwear was being sold over the airwaves of a Glasgow radio station to raise money for children's charities.

Di Canio had worn the boots once, at Aberdeen on Boxing Day, when he scored the winning goal to keep Celtic's title aspirations at least simmering. It was extraordinary enough when they were knocked down to Tom Hunter, head of a chain of sports shops, for £30,000; positively astounding when the under-bidder, the National Lottery winner John McGuinness of Lanarkshire, donated his failed offer of £28,000 to the kitty anyway.

A similar vein of shock and excitement ran through Celtic's match with Dunfermline. Vulnerable in defence, thrusting and dominating in midfield and sometimes exhilarating in attack, the Parkhead side could have scored eight and should have conceded four.

They lost the opener to Britton after six minutes and pummelled the visiting defence so relentlessly thereafter that they should have been in front before Britton squandered a golden opportunity to double Dunfermline's lead. The striker, with only Kerr in goal to beat, sliced his shot feet wide.

Celtic were ahead through Cadete and Van Hooydonk within five minutes of that miss and were 4-1 up — further goals from Cadete and Donnelly — before Britton scored again.

Great fun, but the kind of bizarre performance that is unlikely to bring profit in Thursday's match against the more formidable Rangers at Ibrox. But the impressive return of McStay to midfield after a four-month absence was a huge lift for Celtic.

They are beginning to look more like the team that scintillated for much of last season. But they will have to find a way of keeping the ball away from their own defenders.

Celtic and Rangers now have the championship to themselves, Aberdeen having dropped another two home points in the 1-1 draw with Hibs. The Pittodrie side have been pulled back towards the pack, with Hearts, 4-1 victors over Motherwell, and Dundee United, 1-0 winners at Raith, both closing.

Cricket
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The Guardian INTERACTIVE

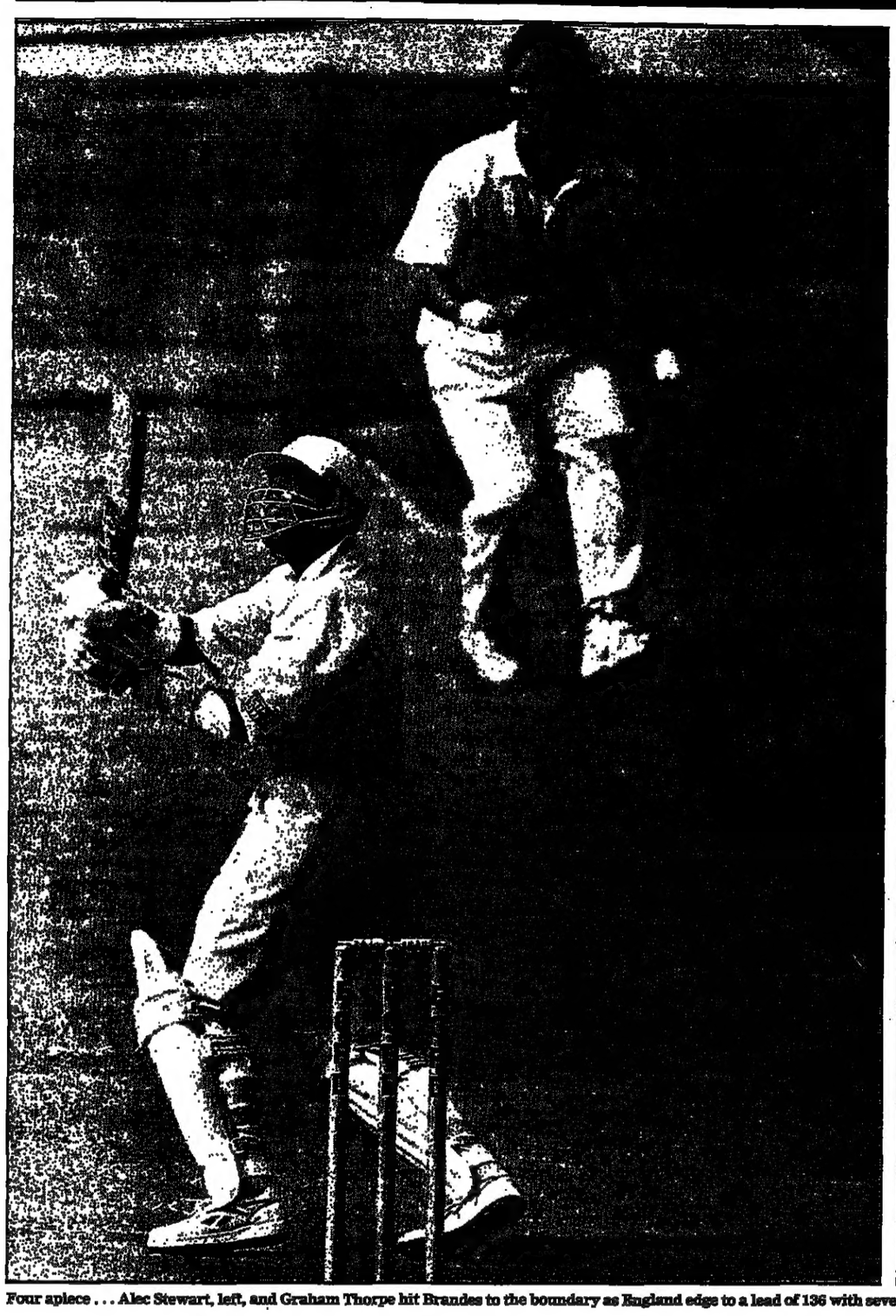
## Five pages of sport

**Athletics** Jon Brown takes the country in his stride **13**

**Soccer** Liverpool stretch their lead at the top **15**

# SportExtra

TEST CRICKET



Four apiece . . . Alec Stewart, left, and Graham Thorpe hit Brandes to the boundary as England edge to a lead of 136 with seven wickets left. Stewart's day at the crease ended in his first Test century when also keeping wicket PHOTOGRAPHS: STU FORSTER

**Zimbabwe v England:** second Test, fourth day

# Stewart plays out of his gauntlets

**David Hopps** sees the England batsman lay a ghost if not a victory base in Harare

ONE of English cricket's long-accepted truths has been that Alec Stewart never scores runs while keeping wicket. Pick him as a specialist batsman and he will plunder to his heart's content; overload him with the wicketkeeper's role and he will perform as if he has forgotten to take off the gauntlets.

It has taken a long time but in England's tour of Zimbabwe Stewart has shaken off a statistic that has traumatised him for much of his international career.

Bar-room bores will no longer quote his comparative batting averages, with and without gloves, to six decimal places; his first Test hundred as a wicketkeeper should take care of that.

Stewart had already set himself new batting standards as a wicketkeeper with his 73 in the opening Test in Bulawayo, an achievement largely overshadowed in the frenzy of an England run chase that finished only a run short of victory.

Yesterday he followed with an unbeaten 101, his ninth century at this level and an innings that should ensure that the second Test, and the series with it, is not lost.

England begin the final day on 195 for three, a lead of 136, with visions of causing Zimbabwe an awkward last two sessions so long as they can safely negotiate the morning. As every morning has felt like a Monday since their arrival, it might be unduly optimistic to speak of victory but things are a lot better than they might have been.

England have been at their most inconsistent in this two-Test series but at the very least their character deserves grudging recognition.

Both here and in Bulawayo they have conceded the initiative with poor first-day performances only to claw their way back into the game with considerable determination.

A first-innings deficit of 59 still left them vulnerable yesterday, especially considering the slowness of the pitch and outfield which put every run at a premium.

At 89 for three, soon after lunch, the spectre of defeat was lurking. But Stewart was joined by his Surrey teammate Graham Thorpe and by the close a gritty fourth-wicket stand was worth 106.

Zimbabwe, and Brandes in particular, bowled well in the first hour without much luck. Instead it was the leg-spinner Paul Strang who caused tremors in the English dressing room as he had Knight caught at slip, a deflection off the wicketkeeper's pads, and then enticed Hussain into driving a fullish delivery to Houghton at short extra.

Had Stewart not been reprieved on 15, when Dekker failed to hold a difficult catch at square leg, Zimbabwe might have been contemplating their first series victory.

Instead he bedded in, suppressing his natural boldness to reach his century in slightly more than six hours. Successive boundaries against Olonga and the second new ball took him there, a flat-bat through mid-off being followed by a rasping square-cut.

Stewart has completed 1996 with the highest runs aggregate in the calendar year of any Test batsman.

It has not in truth been a vintage crop but, considering that he was dropped for the first Test against India last summer and that, at 33, his international career was held in some quarters to be over, he has not only emphasised his powers of survival, he has underlined his quality of performance. Remind him that Gooch's best years came after the age of 35 and he warms to the point.

"I have always had the highest regard for Graham Gooch," he said. "I don't model myself on him but I believe that in his attitude to fitness and preparation he does things the right way. I hope I have a lot more years in me yet."

Both Thorpe and Stewart have had family anxieties in the past year as their wives have undergone stressful pregnancies.

Such personal complications receive little sympathy in professional sport but Stewart's response has been exemplary and there was delight for Thorpe too as he survived for more than three hours for his first half-century of the tour.

Form suggested Crawley should bat ahead of Thorpe at No. 5 but faith and loyalty insisted that the order should stay unchanged.

"We owed it to the lad," the coach David Lloyd said. "We wanted him to know we believed in him. It turned out to be a damn' near perfect day."

### Scoreboard

**ENGLAND:** First innings 158 (Whitall 4–18, H H Streak 4–43).

**ZIMBABWE**

| First innings (overnight: 93–2) | |
|---|---|
| †G W Flower c Crawley b Gough | 73 |
| D L Houghton c Stewart b Gough | 29 |
| A Flower lbw b Gough | 8 |
| A J Walker lbw b Tufnell | 4 |
| G J Whittall b Gough | 1 |
| P A Strang not out | 47 |
| H H Streak c Crawley b Croft | 7 |
| E A Brandes c Gough b Croft | 8 |
| H K Olonga c Hussain b Croft | 0 |
| Extras (lb6, w1, nb6) | 15 |
| Total (105 overs) | 215 |

Fall of wickets cont: 110, 131, 135, 138, 159, 197, 211.

**Bowling:** Mullally 23–7–32–1; Gough 26–10–40–4; Croft 15–2–38–3; White 16–4–41–1; Tufnell 25–8–55–1.

**ENGLAND**

| Second innings | |
|---|---|
| N V Knight c Campbell b Strang | 30 |
| *M A Atherton c Campbell b Streak | 1 |
| †A J Stewart not out | 101 |
| N Hussain c Houghton b Strang | 6 |
| G P Thorpe not out | 50 |
| Extras (nb5, nb2) | 7 |
| Total (for 3, 93 overs) | 195 |

Fall of wickets: 7, 75, 89.

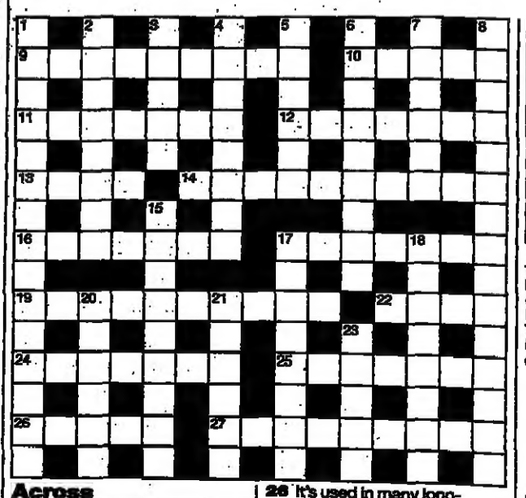
To bat: J P Crawley, C White, R D B Croft, D Gough, A D Mullally, P C R Tufnell.

**Bowling:** Streak 18–5–47–1; Brandes 21–6–45–0; Olonga 7–0–31–0; Whittall 14–6–16–0; Strang 26–8–42–2; G W Flower 7–2–9–0.

**Umpires:** R Tiffin and K T Francis.

## Guardian Crossword No 20,847

Set by Rufus



### Across

9 Its blades control other blades (4,5)
10 A uniform colour, perhaps (5)
11 Records some tennis matches (7)
12 It could make me a lord (7)
13 Turn over at leisure (4)
14 Light diversion? (10)
16 Nursing nuns (7)
17 New name given to single bloom (7)
18 Two lads get the game started, getting a very good hand (5,5)
22 Not all an unemployed actor hopes for (4)
24 People are often led to use them by mistake (7)
25 Number return with a piece of writing for broadcasting (7)
26 It's used in many long-legged girls' stockings (5)
27 Architectural side-show? (9)

### Down

1 Make-up specialists in the theatre (7,8)
2 There's a certain wildness in such devious dealings (8)
3 Lashings of maple syrup (5)
4 Those that cheat at pontoon? (8)
5 French preposition in oral test (6)
6 Distress signal for use of astronauts? (9)
7 Irish police turn up silver with unexpected raid (6)
8 Funeral directors provide such a definite promise (4,11)
15 We shall shortly be having a gin cocktail — here's health! (9)
17 Sailor banished to quarters for being a defaulter (8)
18 One who talks one round to see a musical drama (8)
20 Annual holiday ends too soon (6)
21 The boy found embracing the girl is beaten (6)
23 Street light to go off (5)

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## G2 cover story